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Thursday, January 19, 2012
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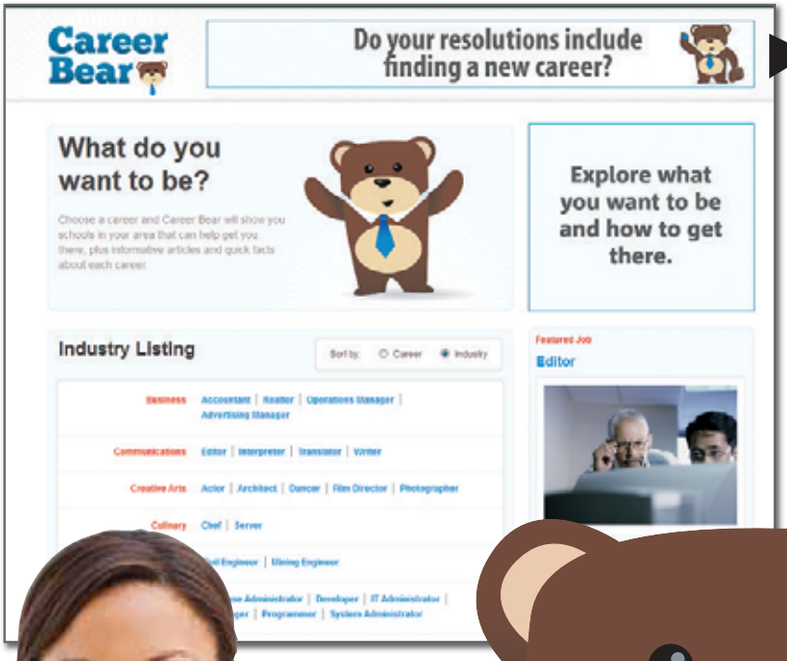
In addition, CareerBear.com automatically detects your location and suggests relevant training opportunities closest to your city.

If you have ever thought about changing careers or want to learn more about a different path, the site is definitely worth checking out.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FRIDAY'S JACKPOT Lotto MAX $30 MILLION estimated

LEAFS' WINTER CLASSIC GAME MAY BE AT MICHIGAN'S BIG HOUSE {page 35}

AGAINST TYPE

A DIFFERENT ROLE FOR HAMILTON'S KATHLEEN ROBERTSON

{page 20}

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Thursday, January 19, 2012
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News worth sharing.

How should TTC spend its $5M?

Riders and left-wing councillors say money was meant to restore bus, streetcar service ◗ TTC Chair wants to support Wheel-Trans

Dialysis patients who use Wheel-Trans, rather than TTC bus riders, could benefit most from the $5 million that city council restored to the TTC's budget on Tuesday, if the chair of the transit commission has her way.

Coun. Karen Stintz, who heads the TTC board, disagrees with council's decision to take $15 million from Toronto's $154 million surplus and apply it to programs and services in the 2012 budget, including transit.

She would prefer that money be used for Toronto's $700-million share of a new streetcar purchase or for TTC capital programs.

One-time funding for programs and services that the city can't sustain makes no sense, she said, and she doesn't want to restore TTC bus services if it only delays those cuts another year.

If the money isn't going to TTC vehicles, it makes more sense to extend Wheel-Trans for 800 dialysis patients, she said. The TTC had threatened to cut their service this month in a bid to save $5 million annually but has given those riders a six-month reprieve while it searches for a funding solution with the province.

"Even with the dialysis (the funding) is not ongoing, but it gives us more time to work out a resolution," Stintz said Wednesday.

But TTCRiders spokesman Jamie Kirkpatrick believes Stintz has misunderstood the will of council.

"I know the majority of council voted to restore service," Kirkpatrick said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"That's not fair to our riders, it's not fair to the commission, it's not fair to all the people that I told that I would not have any more cuts."
TTC CHAIR AND COUN. KAREN STINTZ

Booze, crack addicts get free help to ditch another bad habit — smoking

Drug addicts and alcoholics looking to ditch their bad habits are getting a break: Free nicotine replacement therapy and counselling if they also want to quit smoking.

The three-year effort for 23,000 people in treatment programs across the province will cost taxpayers $4.5 million, Health Minister Deb Matthews said to mark "Weedless Wednesday."

The smoking rate for addicts of crack, meth, OxyContin, other drugs and booze is 38 per cent, double that of the general population.

"We really want to focus on a hard-to-serve population ... people who are facing real challenges," Matthews said at a downtown treatment centre affiliated with the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. "More die from tobacco-related diseases than all other causes combined."

Combining nicotine replacement therapy — including gum, patches and inhalers — with counselling in treatment programs can double the success rates in getting people to quit smoking, said Dr. Peter Selby, director of the addictions program at CAMH.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Fascinator.

▶ Zara Phillips, granddaughter of Britain's Queen Elizabeth II, walks to the royal enclosure at the Royal Ascot horse race in Ascot, England, in this file photo.

ALASTAIR GRANT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Dress code gets tighter

Organizers of the Royal Ascot race are tightening their dress code, the latest in a series of rules aimed at pushing back against the proliferation of provocative outfits, outrageous accessories and revealing tops. Fascinators — whimsical pieces of headwear favoured by the young and posh in Britain — have been banned from the royal enclosure at Royal Ascot.

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Convicted man gets chance to thank judge

Maxwell Beech believes in second chances.

It was chance on Tuesday that brought the 37-year-old abruptly before the judge who'd had faith in him seven years earlier.

Standing at the podium in courtroom 103 at the Brampton courthouse, Beech launched into an unprecedented, heartfelt speech of gratitude to senior judge Hugh Atwood that moved the courtroom — and the judge — to tears.

It had always weighed on Beech, who had faced sentencing for possession of drugs and guns, to thank the man whose sentencing allowed him to be home with his then two-week-old son, to raise him.

"He told a story and everyone in the court was in tears," said Gary Batasar, Beech's former criminal defence lawyer who he'd met by chance in the courthouse that afternoon.

Beech had told Batasar he'd always wanted to thank the judge, but didn't have his name or a way to contact him.

"Do you want to thank him yourself?" Batasar said he asked his former client.

Knowing the judge was just steps away presiding over bail court, Batasar brought him in before the judge.

The judge told Beech it was the best thing anyone had ever said to him, Batasar recalled. He told Beech he'd "made his year." **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

JENNIFER PAGLIARO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Maxwell Beech

Occupy faction resumes camp-out

Two dozen protesters huddling in tents Wednesday near city hall unsure how long they will last

Two months after they were evicted from St. James Park, a small faction of the Occupy Toronto movement have resumed their camp-out protest, this time parking tents near city hall.

According to protesters, officials from nearby Osgoode Hall and the Ontario courthouse at 361 University Ave. issued them verbal notice to vacate the premises.

"We told them they're going to have to give us an eviction notice in writing," said Occupy Toronto member Ian Smart.

The encampment was in solidarity with Stop The Cuts, a movement protesting Mayor Rob Ford's austerity measures, and was erected Tuesday night following the budget debate that prompted a heated clash between police and hundreds of protesters.

Speaking on television Wednesday afternoon, Mayor Rob Ford declared that protesters would be forced to leave, just as they were peacefully evicted from St. James Park after their 39-day encampment last fall.

But Bill Moore, with Infrastructure Ontario, confirmed Wednesday that protesters are on provincial, not city, land.

"We are continuing to monitor the situation and are currently reviewing options and next steps in responding to the demonstrators," Moore said in an email to the Star.

Following the Tuesday night protest at city hall, Toronto Police arrested four men. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Encampment

- Tents were originally set up just outside of City Hall, but the group later moved west of Nathan Phillips Square to a clearing between Osgoode Hall and the courthouse.

LUCAS OLENIUK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ John Erb enters his shelter that is set up between Toronto City Hall and the federal courthouses. Erb is part of a small group of protesters who have occupied the space in reaction to city budget cuts.

Town council to vote on pay hike

It's the kind of pay raise most people can only dream about.

Next Tuesday, councillors in the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville will vote on giving themselves a 43 per cent salary increase over the next two years. The mayor would see his salary go up nearly 47 per cent by 2013, if the budget is approved on Jan. 24.

"There is never a good time to raise your own salary," said Mayor Wayne Emmerson, who makes $42,149 a year. The raise would increase his salary to $62,148 in 2013. "I think if you look at the numbers, and not the percentage, then you can put it in perspective. Our councillors don't even have their own offices. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

TONY BOCK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Whitchurch-Stouffville Mayor Wayne Emmerson.

News in brief

Man charged in home invasion

A man is facing several charges in connection with a violent home invasion in west-end Toronto.

Police say officers were called to a home in the Runnymede Road and Bloor Street West area on Tuesday. Police say a man armed with a knife and a hammer broke into a home where a 64-year-old woman was home with her 89-year-old mother.

It's alleged the man slashed the 64-year-old woman in the arm with the knife before demanding money and then fled with an undisclosed amount of cash.

Police say the mother became ill during the incident and was later taken to hospital. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

1 news

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On the web at metronews.ca

Investment adviser Allan Small has a few questions investors should ask about the state of the market in 2012. More at metronews.ca/investing

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Wife of sex killer disputes claims

The wife of convicted sex killer Russell Williams is disputing claims made against her by one of her estranged husband's surviving victims.

Laurie Massicotte, who was sexually assaulted by the former colonel, has launched a $7 million lawsuit against Williams, his wife and the Ontario Provincial Police.

Massicotte alleges in her statement of claim that Williams fraudulently transferred assets to his wife after he was criminally charged.

In her statement of defence, Williams's wife denies there was any intention to defeat the claims of any creditors of her husband.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MPPs sat only 57 days in 2011

Ontario MPPs sat at the Legislature for just 57 days last year, making 2011 the year with the fewest number of sitting days since 2003.

While that number might not seem like much, Ontario had more sitting days than every other province last year, with the exception of Nova Scotia and Quebec — an impressive feat considering most of September was consumed by a provincial election.

Still, the number was down drastically from 2010, when Ontario MPPs sat for 93 days. The National Assembly of Quebec led with 81 sitting days in 2011, followed by Nova Scotia with 68.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Sick Ottawa girl asking Biebs for some Twitter love

Young woman is moving to Toronto to wait for a lung transplant

JOE LOFARO
@METRONEWS.CA
METRO CANADA IN OTTAWA

A 20-year-old Barrhaven woman in need of a lung transplant is hoping a Twitter appeal to Justin Bieber on Thursday will spread word about the need for organ donation.

Wednesday was Hélène Campbell's last day in Ottawa before moving to Toronto to get her name on a donor's list and wait for a new pair of lungs.

She has idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis and needs to have an oxygen tank at her side to do the simplest tasks.

The trip to Toronto with her mother, Manon Roy Campbell, will be an anxious one. Meanwhile, her close friends have organized an organ donor awareness campaign on Twitter and are hoping Bieber will promote it.

From 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Campbell is asking all Twitter users to tweet to the Canadian pop star (@justinbieber) with the hashtag #BeAnOrganDonor and beadonor.ca.

"I would hope that Justin Bieber would do a retweet or even just tweet something himself," Campbell said. "Even if people get talking about it at the dinner table, then they'll look it up and register because it's super simple to do."

Bieber has more than 16 million followers, so a shout-out from him would mean the world to Campbell.

Her condition has worsened over the past month and she said she feels like a 90-year-old woman right now, but you wouldn't notice that over the telephone. Her sense of humour and positive outlook make the illness appear to be a non-issue.

JOE LOFARO/METRO

▶ Manon Roy Campbell, left, and her daughter, Hélène, will travel on Thursday to Toronto, where Hélène will await a lung transplant.

She could spend up to two years in Toronto waiting for a transplant. After the operation, she'll have to wait at least three to six months before coming back to Ottawa.

Ex-teacher sentenced to 53 months for child porn

A former public school teacher has been sentenced to 53 months in jail on three charges related to child pornography, plus three years' probation.

Stewart Adams, 48, a once-popular English-as-a-second-language teacher at Kingsview Village Junior School in Etobicoke, has 23 months left to serve after he was given credit for time he has already been jailed since his arrest.

He also faces strict cellphone and Internet restrictions, was ordered to give a sample of his DNA and register with the Ontario Sex Offender Registry.

Adams had pleaded guilty to possessing child porn, distributing it and accessing it. A charge of making child pornography was dropped.

Police made a direct one-to-one connection with Adams during an undercover investigation in 2010. He was arrested at the school in June 2010, and police carried out a search warrant at his home in the Eglinton Avenue and Kipling Street area, seizing thousands of child pornography images and videos.

Those images showed young boys having sex with other boys and men. The sexual abuse images involved boys as young as eight.

Adams, who is not married and has no children, was diagnosed as a pedophile. He knew early on in life that he was gay, and "lived a lonely existence," the court was told Wednesday. He was raised in an abusive home in Prince Edward Island, with an alcoholic father and a mother who suffered from depression.

A psychiatric report also showed that he suffers from obsessive-compulsive disorder and depression, as well as a gambling addiction involving slot machines. He is $50,000 in debt.

There was no indication that his crimes involved any child in the Toronto District School Board.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

HANDOUT

▶ Stewart Adams

School record

- Adams had worked at the school, which serves children from junior kindergarten to Grade 5, for more than a decade.
- Before that, he taught at Park Lawn Junior Middle School, Wellesworth Junior School and Lanor Junior Middle School.

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READY FOR ACTION

Pentagon talks tough on Iran

The U.S. military is now "fully prepared" to deal with any Iranian effort to close the Strait of Hormuz, a vital Gulf avenue for international oil shipments, Defence Secretary Leon Panetta said Wednesday.

"We are not making any special steps at this point in order to deal with the situation," Panetta said at a Pentagon news conference. "Why? Because, frankly, we are fully prepared to deal with that situation now."

Iran has threatened to close the strait in retaliation for stronger international economic sanctions.

The U.S. Navy this month added a second aircraft carrier strike group in the Middle East.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cruise-ship captain says he 'tripped' into lifeboat

Francesco Schettino released on house arrest Some neighbours defend his actions, calling him a hero who saved thousands of lives

GIACOMO APRILI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Francesco Schettino, right, the captain of the luxury cruise ship Costa Concordia, is taken into custody by police in Porto Santo Stefano, Italy, on Jan. 14.

Cruise ship captain Francesco Schettino is back in his hometown of Meta di Sorrento, near Naples, where his family and neighbours are defending him.

Schettino's neighbour, Joseph Tito, called Schettino, 52, "a hero who has saved more than 4,000 people," according to the main Naples newspaper, Il Mattino.

On Wednesday, the Rome newspaper La Repubblica reported that Schettino offered a different version of the night the ship hit a rock to the judge who questioned him for three hours the day before.

"The passengers were pouring onto the decks, taking the lifeboats by assault," the newspaper quoted him as saying.

"I didn't even have a life jacket because I had given it to one of the passengers. ... Suddenly, since the ship was at a 60 to 70 degree angle, I tripped and I ended up in one of the boats. That's how I found myself there."

Once in a lifeboat, Schettino reportedly said, he couldn't manoeuvre because of the crush of boats in the water.

Prosecutors in Italy are expected to file several criminal charges against Schettino, including manslaughter and abandoning ship, in the coming days. He faces 12 years in prison for the abandoning-ship charge alone.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE, WITH FILES FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bone-test timing challenged

New research could mean millions of older women can skip frequent screenings for osteoporosis, a study by the University of North Carolina suggests.

The research involved nearly 5,000 women aged 67 and older and began in the 1980s. The researchers found that if an initial bone scan shows no big problems, many women can safely wait 15 years before having another one.

However, they said women deemed at moderate risk should get tested about every five years, and high-risk women should get tested more often, perhaps even every year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Disabled man gets to South Pole

A Nevada man paralyzed in a 2010 snowmobiling accident has reached the South Pole, travelling about 120 kilometres in sub-zero temperatures to arrive 100 years to the day after British explorer Capt. Robert F. Scott completed his journey on Jan. 17, 1912.

Grant Korgan, 33, who is paralyzed from the waist down, used a device called a sit-ski to reach the pole.

"Although my body has been broken, my spirit never will be. I am unbreakable!" Korgan said in a statement posted on the crew's Web site.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The world carries on as Wikipedia goes dark

Jan. 18 is a date that will live in ignorance, as Wikipedia staged a 24-hour blackout of its English-language articles, joining other sites in a protest of pending U.S. legislation aimed at shutting down sites that share pirated movies and other content.

Reddit.com shut down its social news service for 12 hours. Other sites made their views clear without cutting off surfers. Google blacked out the logo on its home page, directing surfers to a page where they could add their names to a petition against the bills.

Listings site Craigslist took a middle route, changing its local home pages to a black screen directing users to an anti-legislation page. After 10 seconds, a link to the main site appears on the home page, but some surfers missed that and were fooled into thinking the whole site was blacked out.

The U.S. Supreme Court upheld a law Wednesday giving U.S. copyright protection to paintings by Pablo Picasso, films of Alfred Hitchcock, music by Igor Stravinsky and millions of other works by foreign artists that had been freely available.

The law's challengers say that community orchestras, academics and others who rely on works that are available for free have effectively been priced out of performing or using the works.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Just the facts?

Twitter has been aflutter with users making up 'facts' in the wake of the Wikipedia blackout. A sampling:

- Rebecca Black, Jacob Black and Sirius Black are relatives. (From @TheHogwartians)
- he Great Wall of China was built to keep the rabbits out. (From @DannyjClayton)
- Adele was awarded the 2011 Nobel Prize in chemistry for discovering how to set fire to the rain. (From @everythingsjake)
- "Die Hard" was going to be Viagra's sales slogan. (From @wallaceme)

DWI trial proceeds for ex-Miss USA

A Michigan beauty queen crowned the first Arab-American Miss USA will stand trial in March on a drunken-driving charge unless a plea deal is reached, a judge said Wednesday.

Rima Fakih, 26, was stopped on Dec. 3 in the Detroit enclave of Highland Park. She has said she wasn't drinking that night, but two police breath tests put her blood-alcohol content at over twice the legal limit.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ISAAC BREKKEN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Rima Fakih

Doubt ended DSK case

The case against Dominique Strauss-Kahn — accused of sexually assaulting a hotel maid in New York — was dropped because the chief prosecutor was "no longer convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that I knew what happened," Cyrus R. Vance Jr. said Wednesday.

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Weather as pandemic predictor

La Niña alters bird migration, which could lead to spread of flu
Avian viruses caused outbreaks

The weather phenomenon known as La Niña — or the appearance of cooler than normal waters in the eastern and central Pacific Ocean — may be responsible for more than just changes to global weather patterns.

It could also be playing a role in worldwide flu pandemics, according to a researcher at Columbia University.

Jeffrey Shaman, an assistant professor in the Department of Environmental Health Sciences at Columbia, studies the environmental determinants of infectious disease transmission.

He and researcher Marc Lipsitch, of the Centre for Communicable Disease Dynamics at the Harvard School of Public Health, looked at the most recent human influenza pandemics to determine whether there was a relationship with La Niña conditions.

It turns out all four were preceded by what appears to be La Niña — or what is known, when combined with the El Niño weather pattern, as the El Niño-Southern Oscillation.

The effect of La Niña on "migratory bird health and behaviour could be one way the large-scale environment alters the likelihood of influenza virus reassortment events and cross-over to human hosts," the authors write in their paper.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CARLOS JULIO MARTINEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

▶ Xiomara Herrera, 13, enters her flooded home in southern Colombia last December. Meteorologists blamed the rain and flooding on La Niña. It turns out the phenomenon may be more than a disruption in weather patterns — it could be playing a role in flu pandemics.

ODDITY

Want to borrow a stripper?

The Ottawa Public Library will be lending out a stripper, a sex worker and a bus driver later this month.

It's part of the "human library" event being held in partnership with the Canadian War Museum on Jan. 28.

The library says human libraries provide an exciting opportunity for the public to connect one-on-one with individuals who have diverse life experiences, stories and knowledge.

The event will allow people to check out any one of 60 different human books for a 20-minute conversation.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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News in brief

Man survives shark attack; Australia's 2nd this year

NORTH OF SYDNEY. A 44-year-old surfer suffered serious wounds to his thigh and buttocks in Australia's second shark attack this month.

Australia normally has about three shark attacks per year — one of them fatal — but there already have been two attacks so far this year, off the east coast.

A 28-year-old man survived a shark bite on an arm while surfing off North Avoca, about 90 kilometres north of Sydney, on Jan. 3. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

L.A. search continues after head found

HOLLYWOOD HILLS. Investigators plan to search the brush near a popular Hollywood hiking trail where a human head in a plastic bag was found by dog walkers.

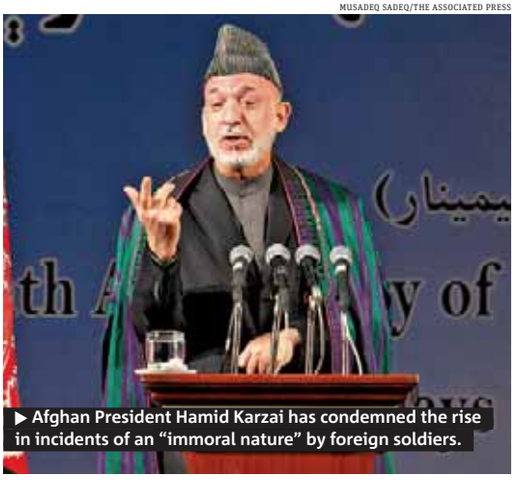
Police say officers and Los Angeles County coroner's investigators arrived Wednesday morning to search for body parts and clues near the trail in Bronson Canyon, a section of Griffith Park near the Hollywood sign.

There was no immediate word on the cause of death. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Soldiers accused of abuse

Tensions between Afghanistan, coalition forces flare over video of alleged 'child abuse' by British troops

MUSADEQ SADEQ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ Afghan President Hamid Karzai has condemned the rise in incidents of an "immoral nature" by foreign soldiers.

British authorities said Wednesday that they are investigating allegations of inappropriate behaviour by two soldiers in Afghanistan after reports surfaced about possible abuse of children there.

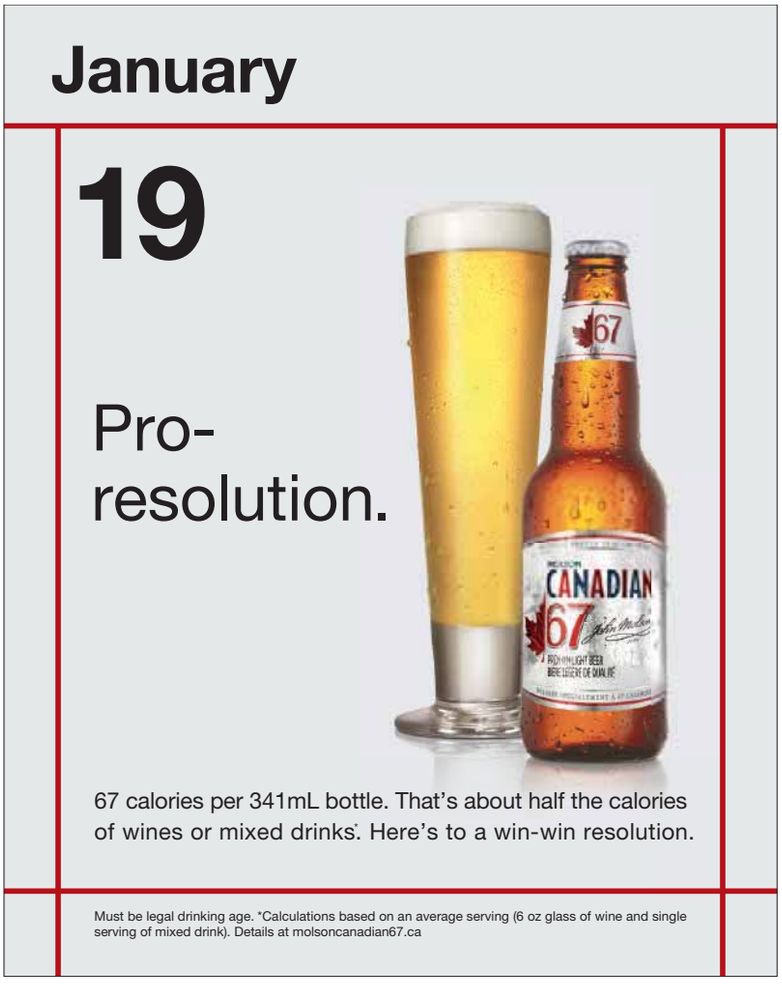
The Sun newspaper reported the allegations, saying the soldiers filmed the children and showed the video to other servicemen who reported them. Afghan President Hamid Karzai's office said it was "deeply disturbed" by reports that British soldiers encouraged two Afghan children to touch them.

Karzai's office on Wednesday slammed what it called a disgusting "rise in recent incidents of immoral nature among foreign soldiers." Calling the alleged acts "child abuse," the Afghan government called on Britain to investigate and punish anyone involved.

The British Ministry of Defence, however, would not comment on the nature of the allegations or say if the soldiers remain on active duty. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Taliban blast

- Dozens of civilians, NATO coalition troops and Afghan security forces were killed and wounded Wednesday when a suicide attacker blew himself up in a bazaar, according to the top commander of international troops in Afghanistan, who alleged that the Taliban's leader had "lost all control" of his footsoldiers.
- U.S. Gen. John Allen condemned the attack in Kajaki district of Helmand province and said it was evidence that the insurgents had "declared outright war" on the Afghan people.
- Daud Ahmadi, a provincial spokesman, said a suicide bomber on a motorcycle killed 12 Afghans, including two policeman, and wounded at least 23 other people. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**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L.A. OKs law requiring condom use by porn actors

Filmmakers say they'll likely just go to neighbouring counties to produce movies Approximately 90 per cent of U.S. porn films are made in L.A.

JOE KOHEN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Advocates from AIDS Healthcare Foundation bestowed the SkinFlynt Award on porn mogul Larry Flynt at a protest at the XBIZ Adult Film Awards in Santa Monica Calif., last week.

Some of the most prominent purveyors of erotic films say they'll start packing up their sex toys and abandoning the U.S. porn capital if authorities carry through with an effort to police film sets and order that every actor be outfitted with a condom.

That effort took a serious leap forward Tuesday when the Los Angeles city council voted 9-1 to grant final approval to an ordinance that would deny film permits to producers who do not comply with the condom requirement. The measure now goes to Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa for approval. Before the measure can take effect, the council has called for the creation of a committee to determine how it might be enforced.

"It's going to be interesting to see how in fact they do try to enforce it and who's going to fund it, and all of the time and effort they're going to spend," said Steven Hirsch, co-founder and co-chairman of Los Angeles-based Vivid, one of the largest makers of erotic movies.

"Ultimately I think what they will find is people will just stop shooting in the city of Los Angeles," added Hirsch. "That's a given."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"If you want to wear them, wear them. If you don't, don't. That's up to the talent to decide. It shouldn't be up to the government to decide."

PORN ACTRESS AND PRODUCER TABITHA STEVENS

Russia vows to block West from entering Syria

Syria's powerful allies in Russia vowed Wednesday to block any Western attempts to intervene militarily in Syria as Damascus fights off an increasingly chaotic 10-month-old revolt against President Bashar Assad.

The support came as Assad was showing fresh confidence that he can ride out the uprising with the help of a small — but influential — set of friends in Russia, China and Iran.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"If some intend to use force at all cost ... let them do it at their own initiative on their own conscience, they won't get any authorization from the UN Security Council."

RUSSIAN FOREIGN MINISTER SERGEY LAVROV

Casey Anthony offered a strip club job

A newspaper in Florida reported Wednesday that a strip club in southeastern Florida has offered its rumoured new neighbour Casey Anthony a job.

The Herald Sun says a local TV station reported that a sign outside Body Talk in Port St. Lucie reads, "Hey Casey we are hiring."

People magazine reported last week that Anthony, who was acquitted last July of killing her two-year-old daughter Caylee, had moved to the Port St. Lucie area, south of her hometown of Orlando.

Body Talk manager Doug Devlin told WPEC-TV he put up the sign late on Sunday night, shortly after hearing that Anthony had moved nearby.

Anthony's daughter Caylee was reported missing during the summer of 2008, and Anthony offered varying accounts of what led to the toddler's disappearance.

At her murder trial, her defence claimed Caylee drowned. METRO

Man gets 200 years for stabbing spree

SETH WENIG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Maksim Gelman

A 24-year-old Ukraine-born man who pleaded guilty to murder and other crimes in a violent stabbing rampage in New York City last winter was sentenced Wednesday to 200 years in prison during a hearing in which he hurled epithets at one of his victims and was told by the judge that he was a "sociopath".

Maksim Gelman pleaded guilty in November in Brooklyn to murder and other charges in the spree in February 2011.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Obama gives thumbs down to Keystone pipeline ... for now

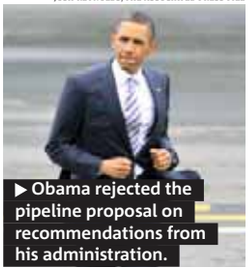
Re-application will need to reroute the pipeline around environmentally-sensitive Nebraskan aquifer

Trapped by an untenable Feb. 21 deadline imposed by Congress, U.S. President Barack Obama rejected TransCanada's proposed $7-billion Keystone XL pipeline on Wednesday in a decision his Canadian counterpart greeted with "profound disappointment."

Obama called Prime Minister Stephen Harper on Wednesday to break the news, but also to point out that TransCanada was free to submit an amended application.

"Prime Minister Harper expressed his profound disappointment with the news. He indicated to President Obama that he hoped that this project would continue given the significant contribution it would make to jobs and economic growth both in Canada and the United States of America," Harper spokesman Andrew MacDougall said.

JOSH REYNOLDS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE



▶ Obama rejected the pipeline proposal on recommendations from his administration.

Indeed, Alberta-to-Texas Keystone XL is likely more delayed than dead: the move allows the White House to take back control of the approval process after Republican lawmakers attempted to force Obama into green-lighting the project in late December.

TransCanada was not surprised by the decision. "We will re-apply for a presidential permit and expect a new application would be processed in an expedited manner to allow for an in-service date of late 2014."

The U.S. State Department said the decision "was predicated on the fact that the department does not have sufficient time to obtain the information necessary to assess whether the project, in its current state, is in the national interest."

Alberta Premier Alison Redford said she plans to visit Washington again, adding the decision doesn't mean Alberta will focus more or less on the U.S. or on any other market for its bitumen.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Europe a global threat: BoC

The Bank of Canada has called Europe the biggest threat to Canada's economy, estimating the loss in output this year at about $10 billion. It said the costs to the world are even greater at more than one per cent of the GDP. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market moment

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TORIES' NOSES MAY BE A LITTLE OUT OF JOINT

HE SAYS ...

JOHN MAZEROLLE
METRO

The Liberal Party has gone to pot — and I like it.

The Grits, their popularity up in smoke, have decided to nip the problem in the bud by legalizing marijuana.

There. Now that I've got every marijuana pun out of the way, I can say that the Liberals' recent decision to add pot decriminalization to its platform is a rare instance when political expediency collides with common sense.

Yeah, the Liberals are Canada's longest-running situation comedy, and need to do something to win back their dwindling audience. But if that desperation leads to an actual common-sense revolution where the War on Drugs is seen as Reefer Madness, then smoke 'em if you got 'em, because I'm in.

I don't even like pot — the smell makes me queasy — but I know the decades-long battle to teach kids about the dangers of drugs is a colossal failure. How? Because I was a kid.

"... in my experience the predominant symptom among pot smokers is a good-natured sleepiness. Do we really need the government's War on Naps?"

When I was young, all the Nancy Reagan, very-special-Blossom, this-is-your-brain-on-drugs propaganda led me to believe that smoking a joint was on par, health-wise, with enjoying a glass of anti-freeze.

Then I got to junior high and noted with interest that pot-smoking classmates appeared to be fine, save for an apparent inability to comb their hair.

At this point the War on Drugs was useless, because I no longer trusted anything else I had "learned." To this day I have no idea what the relative danger of, say, cocaine actually is. (If it were as dangerous as I was told, you'd notice the crowd thinning over the course of the Oscars.)

Drug education is a lot like those sex-ed classes where they never let on that sex might feel as good as a satisfying sneeze. As you watch a different teacher each year awkwardly describe sex as if it were Basic Tent Assembly, it finally dawns on you: "They're holding back on something amazing."

With both sex and drugs, the powers-that-be are withholding the full truth from kids when they need adults' guidance most. That's nothing short of irresponsible.

So, if any kids are reading this, tell your friends: Criminal charges aside, pot looks kind of fun.

I've seen angry, puking, bawling alcohol drinkers pretty much every week of my life, but in my experience the predominant symptom among pot smokers is a good-natured sleepiness. Do we really need the government's War on Naps?

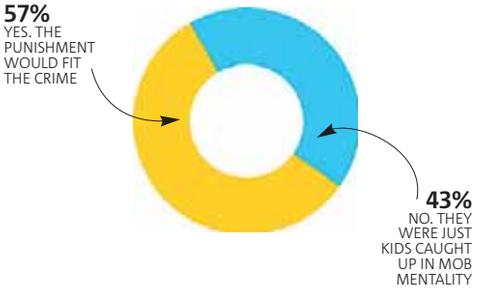
And let's not forget that the Conservatives are planning to make our marijuana laws even tougher. On the slim chance that they ask you if you agree with their approach, remember your training, kids.

Just say no.

Read more of John Mazerolle's columns at metronews.ca/hesays

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Should Stanley Cup rioters be sentenced to jail time?



Local tweets

@JRaj_Music: #Toronto ranked as the 2nd smartest city in the world! #ImWithStupid

@elcostello: Absolutely packed house for #Toronto #ndpldr debate. #CDNpoli

@teamlindsey: An exceptionally small venue the #ndpld in #Toronto - a ginormous #ndp enclave....

@LidiaAbuSaleh: What in the world is SOPA??? I've seen it on Facebook tumblr and twitter :S anyone wanna explain?

@FarahMannan: @LidiaAbuSaleh basically there's a legislation that the US congress is trying to pass that's gonna limit the freedom of content on the web!

@LidiaAbuSaleh: @FarahMannan wait so does that affect Canada? And they're basically wanting to take the Internet away??!!??!

@VaneMariana91: The minute people are directly affected by a prospective legislation, everyone miraculously becomes a politician. #smh

@kaaaaylo: Even though this is a part of the U.S legislation, if this passes who knows the influences the bill will have with other countries. #SOPA

Daily Zoom

GUY TAL

Deep purple

Desert becomes magic carpet

MOJAVE DESERT, UTAH. Every five years or so, this isolated expanse of Utah desert is magically transformed into a meadow of purple wildflowers. Scorpionweed carpets this section of the Utah badlands only when there's a rare combination of winter rainfall and sunshine within a narrow time frame. MWN

"Five years after conceiving the image, I was at last able to capture it. I had the dramatic backdrop of a thunderstorm — an especially rare event in these parts."
GUY TAL
PHOTOGRAPHER

Scorpionweed

It has this name for a reason. Its flowerhead looks like a scorpion's tail and it leaves a nasty rash when touched.

How the photographer saw it. "Each day the patchwork of colours shifted from purple to yellow and changed until, just a couple of short weeks later, the place was again barren."

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HANDOUT

▶ Need a reason to celebrate? Head down to Harbourfront Centre and find a few.

Celebrate Chinese culture

Ring in the Chinese New Year at Harbourfront Centre with a focus on arts and the artists

BACKSTAGE PASS

IAN GORMELY
METRO TORONTO

Forget dragons — 2012 will be all about the ocean; at least that's the hope of Harbourfront and the Asian Canadian Special Events Association.

The two groups have teamed up to present LunarFest along Toronto's waterfront, and have created a giant, 15-foot tall coral reef as part of what ACSEA managing director Charlie Wu calls "the world's first lantern-aquarium."

To make the event as inclusive as possible, event organizers tied the event to the lunar New Year, traditionally observed in many Asian cultures.

"A lot of people call it Chinese new year," says Wu. "It's a festival to celebrate beyond the Chinese culture."

The organization first launched LunarFest in Vancouver back in 2009 as part of the city's Cultural Olympiad, with a focus on Asian arts and culture.

"The idea was to reflect diversity," says Wu.

They erected a lantern forest with LED lights and environmental messages in the city streets. The installation became one of the most photographed spots during the 2010 Olympics.

Lanterns are a traditional art form but the ACSEA have asked a number of contemporary artists to help populate the reef with lantern fish and sharks with school children and puppeteers helping to bring the creatures to life. They've even enlisted DJs to help soundtrack the underwater world.

"It's a very different presentation," he says.

Like Vancouver's lantern forest, the aquarium will rely on energy efficient LED lights to illuminate the reef — an endangered species — and its inhabitants and many of lanterns have incorporated environmental messages into their designs.

"There's a connection between nature and humans," says Wu.

"Sometimes it takes a lot of work to make people realize these connections."

He admits that the aquarium is a subtle message, but once they've seen its beauty he hopes people will take notice.

LunarFest takes place from Jan 20 to 24 at Harbourfront Centre (235 Queens Quay West.) It is free admission.

2 scene

Ladies Love

After seven years with a no-host format, the Grammys will have an emcee — LL Cool J. The Grammy-winning rapper says his hosting duties are a dream come true.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jessica Alba keeps it 'Honest' with e-commerce business selling eco-friendly family products.

Robertson relishes role

Hamilton-born actress enjoys playing a plain, down-to-earth teacher in Not Since You

ANNE BRODIE
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Hamilton's Kathleen Robertson stars as Amy in Jeff Stephenson's romantic drama Not Since You, in which friends who knew each other at university gather for a wedding. Many have changed through the years, but not Amy. She's the strong core of the group and partnered with a man she loves. She's shocked by her emotions when an old beau shows up. Robertson said she couldn't say no to the role.

"I don't usually get the opportunity to play somebody so healthy. She's the healthiest psychologically, mentally, she's about simplicity, she's a teacher, grounded, sensible, and I never play these characters. I usually play dark and complicated. That's why I really wanted to play her."

HANDOUT

▶ Kathleen Robertson says normally she's cast in dark and complicated roles.

You have a lot on the go, producing, writing and starring in film and TV scripts with your husband (producer Chris Cowles) including a TV series for Global/Shaw called Your Time Is Up.

"We have a couple of things. I'm writing a lot and have set up a couple things, and it's been really amazing to write. I did a movie in Cuba called Gravity's Pull, the first thing I co-wrote. It was really fun and it's a Canadian film..."

How was working in the Golden Globes-nominated series Boss, with Kelsey Grammer

"It's pretty mind blowing, he's unbelievable in it, and the show is amazing. It's my first television series, and it's really incredible that we (were) nominated for two Golden Globes... (Kelsey Grammer won for best actor in a television series).

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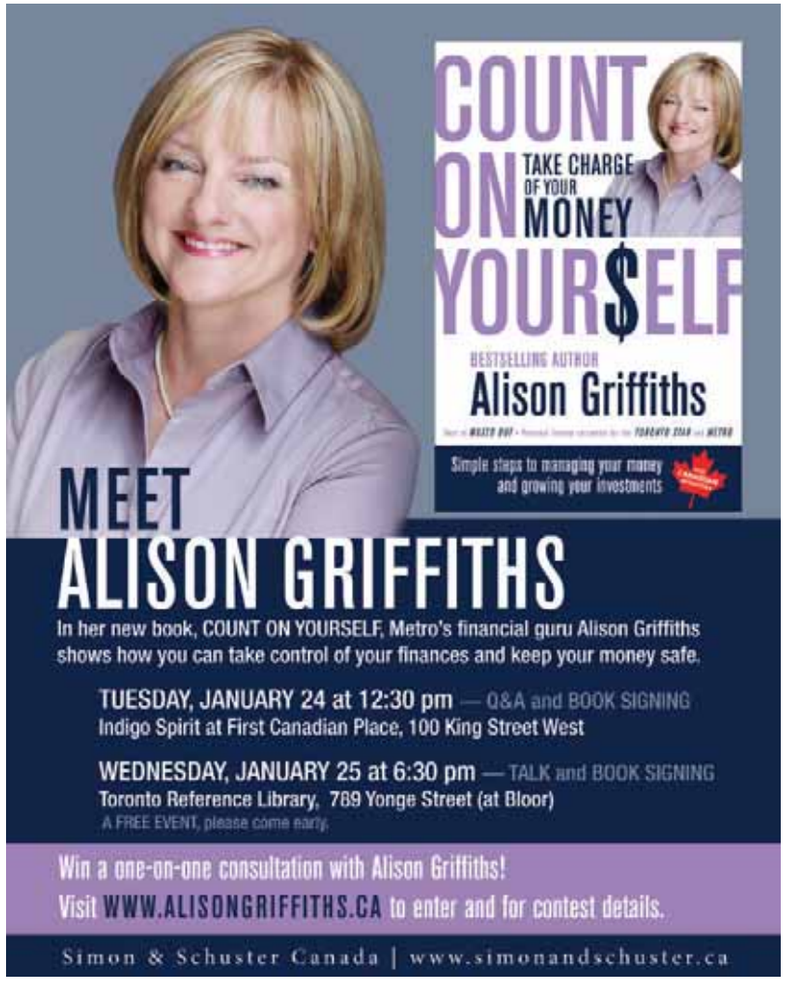
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A new view on Chelsea

Chelsea Handler's new sitcom has her playing her sister

AMBER RAY
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In Are You There, Chelsea? — the new sitcom based on Chelsea Handler's best-selling books — Laura Prepon plays Chelsea Handler and Chelsea Handler plays her sister Sloan. In real life, she isn't actually named Sloan — but that was changed, the comedian says, "for legal reasons, so that my own family can't sue me." Got that?

"I've been living this life for a long time, and I'm over myself. And it's a pleasure to play my sister, because everything I've been accusing her of my whole life, I can now re-enact before her eyes. She's thrilled, surprisingly," Handler said while promoting the sitcom at the Television Critics Association press tour in Pasadena, Calif., last week. "But, yeah. It's a lot more fun for me to play her than it would be to play myself. It's a lot more challenging anyway."

"Challenging" is a good word to describe the sitcom and its place on broadcast television — like most of Handler's material, the pilot is heavy on raunchy sex jokes and references to drinking.

The title of the show, in fact, used to be Are You There, Vodka? "Well, some people like tequila, you know. Some people like beer. Not everybody likes vodka," Prepon joked about the title change.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Chelsea Handler

How real-to-life is Chelsea? "I was probably angrier than she is in the show, which we thought wasn't palatable," Handler said of sitcom's Chelsea. "I went through my 20s in a way that not a lot of people do. I kind of barreled through them with no rhyme or reason or repercussions for anything. And there's definitely an essence of that."

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Depp's situation 'so sad'

While they've lived happily for more than a decade away from the spotlight in France, Johnny Depp and Vanessa Paradis' relationship is reportedly "all but officially finished," multiple sources tell People magazine.

A main reason for that, the sources say, is location, as the couple — parents to children Lily-Rose, 12, and Jack, 9 — has been residing in Los Angeles more and more often.

Some close to Depp and Paradis claim the couple has already split up.

"It's so sad," a source says.

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▶ Johnny Depp

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OK there Marky Mark, calm down

Wahlberg claims he would have landed 9-11 plane

It looks like Mark Wahlberg has spent a little too much time talking tough on movie sets. In an interview with Men's Journal, the actor claims that if he was onboard a hijacked plane on Sept. 11, things would have ended differently.

(Before we get started, some fun facts about Mark Wahlberg: He's 5-8 and doesn't have a pilot's license.)

"If I was on that plane with my kids, it wouldn't have went down like it did," says the actor, who had purchased a ticket for one of the planes that crashed into the World Trade Center but changed his travel plans.

"There would have been a lot of blood in that first-class cabin and then me saying, 'OK, we're going to land somewhere safely, don't worry.'"

Oh, Mark. In the real world, saying heroic things in a Southie Boston accent doesn't magically kill the bad guys.

MONICA WEYMOUTH; DOROTHY ROBINSON WILL RETURN TOMORROW

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

▶ Mark Wahlberg

Is Rihanna 'hooking up' with Chris Brown?

It's been nearly three years since Chris Brown's infamous assault of girlfriend Rihanna, and after all the court dates, restraining orders and reconciliation, the two allegedly have been getting together on the sly, according to Us Weekly. Brown and Rihanna "meet up very casually," a source says.

"She comes to see him anytime she's in L.A. They can't get enough of each other. I don't see it ending well."

So what's the draw of a loose-cannon ex-boyfriend?

"Rihanna loves to live dangerously, and talking to and hooking up with Chris is all part of that," says another source.

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Rihanna

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The long and the short of it

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$85, madewell.com

REBECCA TAYLOR
runway pullover
$350, rebeccataylor.com

ADAM LONG
Long-silk-chiffon skirt
$295, shopadam.com

Hanneli Mustaparta expertly nailing the look in New York.

MWN

Style pick

The bright pack
It's tangerine, made from PVC and waterproof. And no, it's not high-vis workman's wear or a niche, fetish trend. It is, however, a Comme des Garçons' courier bag that gives two fingers to the January depression, while offering all the practicality of some dreadful, conference-freebie satchel. This sunny number will last you through the winter and it'll still be on trend come summer.
MWN

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Adrien Brody leads a cast of actor-models in Prada's menswear show.

Jeanne Space

In this hectic modern world, Twitter has become a cool and succinct way of communicating. It allows me to be accessible, instantly speak my mind, and connects me with all kinds of people. Whether it's a fashion question, or you just want to comment on life's bigger picture, I'd love to hear from you.

@Jeanne_Beker: **2012 is the Year of the Dragon. Dragons are unafraid of challenges + like to take risks. What's the gutsy-est fashion move you've ever made?**

- **@chrisjallaire:** Wearing fur in my small hometown. Death wish (but yet I live!)
- **@qualityslippers:** When I was sixteen I wore a unitard to a Sex Pistols concert.
- **@talakamea:** Enrolled in the MA Fashion prgrm @RyersonFashion. Gonna be 1 of the first prgrm grads! My research: the sound of clothing.
- **@AgendaLV:** A top hat with Harley boots.

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WEDDING PLANNER

Ivory Alencon lace fit-to-flare gown with cameo pink underlay featuring a bateau neckline off-the-shoulder sleeve and dramatic lace bow at back.

PHOTOS COURTESY INES DI SANTO

Creations from wedding dress atelier Ines Di Santo. Off White Italian Lace and Tulle sweetheart strapless ball gown with asymmetrical multi-layered skirt and floral appliques with a beaded belt at natural waist, right. Ivory Silk Gazar gown with asymmetrical rouching throughout bodice with delicate Chantilly lace underlay and side slit, far right. Shoulder strap features full organza cluster.

Less is more with gowns

STEPHANIE ORFORD
FOR METRO

The dress is everything, according to Veronica Di Santo-Abramowicz, managing partner for wedding dress atelier Ines Di Santo, based in Toronto. "If you feel great in it, that's all that matters."

Ines Di Santo makes dresses to suit many different tastes and shapes, explained Di Santo-Abramowicz.

She outlined a few looks to watch out for in the coming year.

Less is more: Wedding dresses in 2012 will be less over-the-top and more understated elegant. "Something more inspired by the royal wedding," said Di Santo-Abramowicz — tailored and regal, but not ostentatious.

The mermaid: Trends in skirt shape will be diverse. Fitted to the knee and then flared, the mermaid dress shape is an Ines Di Santo favourite and creates a curve-hugging body shape, said Di Santo-Abramowicz.

Illusion necklines: "We're seeing a turn away from the strapless," she explained. Instead, brides are gravitating toward illusion necklines — strapless dresses that are connected over the shoulders by sheer tulle. There are many different illusion neckline shapes to play with, said Di Santo-Abramowicz. It also provides more support than a strapless gown, and may be considered more appropriate in some religious settings because of its coverage.

High-quality fabrics: Lace is a timeless component of the wedding dress, said Di Santo-Abramowicz, but other fabrics, like tulle, are making a comeback. An airy Italian silk tulle skirt is perfect for the bride who wants to make a statement but retain a classic silhouette, she said.

The full princess gown: Alternately, some 2012 brides-to-be are choosing ball gowns worthy of Cinderella — voluminous dresses with skirts that jut from the waist or hips.

For any dress, couture to second-hand, the most important thing is to stay true to your personality, said Di Santo-Abramowicz.

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Make it your special day to remember

STEPHANIE ORFORD
FOR METRO

After many a romantic proposal by the fireside this holiday season, it's time for newly engaged couples to start planning their big day.

But before you jump in, make sure you know what you want, said Genève McNally, principal planner of DreamGroup Productions wedding and event planning in Vancouver. Maintaining your vision for the wedding is key.

Here is how to start planning for the big day:

JEFF OW OF STU-DI-O

▶ Maintaining your vision when planning a wedding is key, said Genève McNally, principal planner of DreamGroup Productions wedding and event planning.

Determine your priorities

It's easy for couples to get bogged down in expectations, said McNally.

"A lot of couples don't stop to think about what they want," she explained. "They pick up a checklist and they just start going, going, going."

The result is often a wedding that isn't meaningful to the couple.

Start off by determining what elements are important to you. You can choose to ditch the bouquet toss, pare down the guest list, or throw the opulent bash of the century, said McNally, but get your priorities straight before you start in on the details.

Create a budget

Include all the things you want in your wedding and get prospective vendors to give you price estimates. This is the time to reprioritize if things cost more than you can afford. "So many couples end up 30 to 50 per cent over budget," McNally said.

Communicate

Make sure you sit down with your close family and wedding party to discuss expectations, said McNally.

For instance, if your parents are helping finance the event, find out exactly how much they are contributing and how much input they expect to have in the decision-making, she advised. Make sure everyone feels heard and you will avoid some of the conflicts that can rear their ugly heads.

Get on it!

Another way to steer clear of stress is to plan well in advance. "Some couples think, 'I've got a whole year,'" said McNally, but she suggests nailing down key details like booking the marriage officiant, and the reception and ceremony locations as soon as possible — ideally a year ahead. After you have those out of the way you can start going through your list of vendors, she said.

Slow it down

Enjoy the planning and enjoy the day, advised McNally. "Really, what other time in your life are you going to spend that much money on one day?" she said.

Slow it down and make it a leisurely, enjoyable affair and it will be a day to remember.

Wedding shows

- **The Total Wedding Show:** Jan. 20-22; International Centre, 6900 Airport Rd., Mississauga; Website: totalweddingshow.com/
- **National Bridal Show:** Jan. 27-29; Direct Energy Centre, Exhibition Place; Website: nationalbridalshow.com/
- **Dreams Wedding Show:** Jan. 29; Red Rose Convention Centre, 1233 Derry Rd. East, Mississauga; Website: dreamsshows.com/

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Dos and don'ts for destination 'I dos'

BENEDETTA LAMANNA
2 FOR COUPLES

More and more couples are choosing destination weddings. Rebecca Grinnals, founder and president of Engaging Concepts, a leading wedding industry consulting firm, shares her secrets to nuptials near and far.

Do start by establishing your couple style. Are you outdoorsy or urban; traditional or trendy; hippie or haute couture? This should dictate everything from your choice of location and venue to your menu.

Do make a list of words or phrases that describe the feelings you want your wedding to evoke — perhaps relaxed, great wine and eclectic music. Don't get weighed down by the many, many choices out there: Refer back to the list when you feel overwhelmed with options.

Do choose a location and venue that has personal meaning for you and your mate. And dream big: The sky is literally the limit, from rustic barns to mountain-climbing weddings! Looking for a trendy place? The latest hot spots for destination weddings include: The Caribbean, the Cayman Islands, Las Vegas, Napa, Fla., and mountainous regions around the globe.

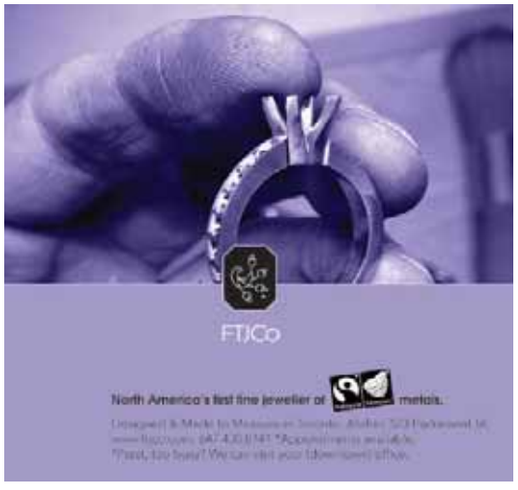
Don't do it yourself. Enlist the services of location-based wedding planners. They have the local knowledge and connections to plan and execute your far-away fete.

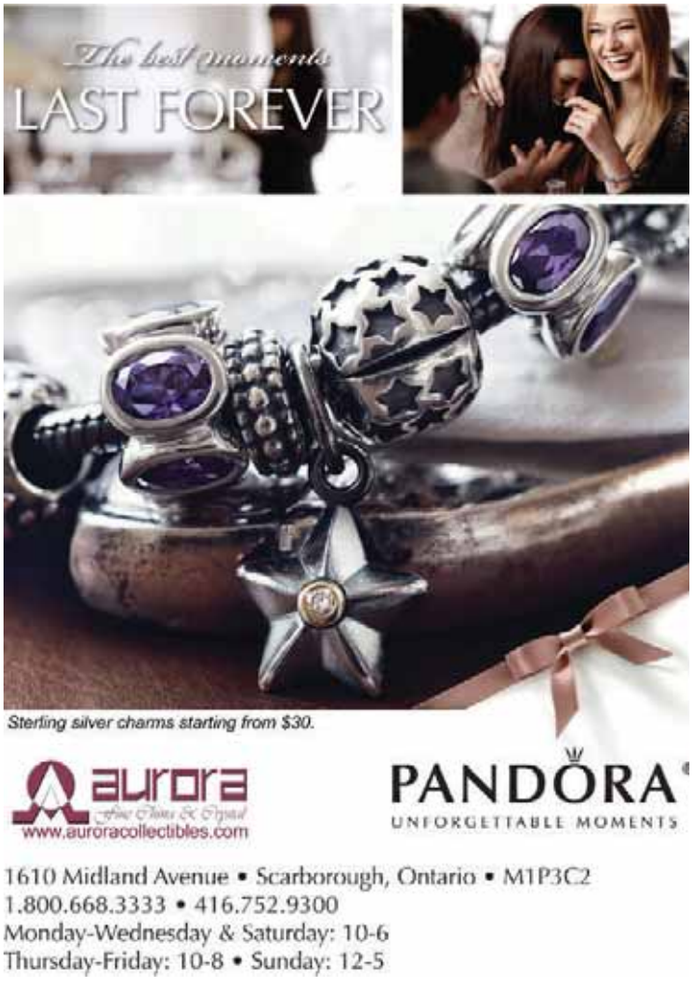
Don't get caught with your legal pants down! Get up to speed with marriage licence requirements if you are getting hitched abroad. Look into this at least six months before your wedding to ensure you satisfy all legal parameters.

Don't forget to consider guests' budgets. Research and suggest a range of accommodations. Condos or villas are great options for groups of people.

FOR WEDDING PLANNING ON THE GO, GET THE WEDDINGS BY 2 FOR COUPLES IPHONE APP ON THE APP STORE!

INGRAM PUBLISHING/THINKSTOCK





Picture perfect wedding photos

San Francisco-based wedding photographer Kali Kraum gives you the scoop on how to get the most out of your wedding photos.

1 Consider price, photo style and personality.
Kraum says: "I always say the same thing to all of my clients: The three most important things to consider are price, photos and personality. Almost everyone is trying to stick to a wedding budget, so price is often the first place a couple starts when searching for a photographer.

"And, of course, a connection with the photographs and style of the photographer is incredibly important. Liking the style of your photographer has as much to do with the moments they capture as the way they edit or process the photos."

2 Don't try too hard when posing; be natural.
Kraum says: "Be relaxed! Have fun! It's your wedding day, and you look gorgeous, so enjoy it. Share a secret joke or whisper something in your sweetie's ear and you will get at least two great photos — a sweet moment where you are sharing a secret and a big laugh or smile."

3 Don't cake on the makeup.
Kraum says: "Make sure you have a small touch-up kit with you, with lipstick and powder. But don't pile on the powder. It's better to use a blotting sheet if you start to feel shiny. And keep hydrated. Lips and eyes start to look dry by the end of the day if you forget to drink."

GET THE ULTIMATE WEDDING PLANNER IPAD APP BY 2 FOR COUPLES ON THE APP STORE!

Tips for the best man, bridesmaid

Q I have been asked to be best man. What should my approach be? And how far can I push things?

A Since you were selected to be the best man, chances are you know the groom better than anyone, so that can give you a little insight on him that others won't necessarily know. But that doesn't mean speech time is roast time. Keep it relatively G-rated: Instead of revealing misdemeanours and dredging stuff from the vault that could upset the bride and other guests, mention a couple of the groom's funny quirks or some memorable anecdotes. And keep it short! Aim for between five and 10 minutes max.

Q I have been asked to be the maid of honour at my best friend's wedding. Any major don'ts I should avoid?

A Yes, whatever you do, don't … show up late. Come on, do we really need to explain this one?

Tell the bride your honest-to-God opinion of how she looks. Unless you think she looks fab, then, by all means, tell her. But if she thinks frosty blue eyeshadow is a must, zip the lip. The last thing anyone wants to see is a teary-eyed bride.

Host an outrageous bridal shower. À la Patrick Dempsey's Tom in Made of Honor, I'm going to be presumptuous and assume that you don't want to inadvertently host a shower with sex toys.

Make out with best man at the reception. Offside. Enough said.

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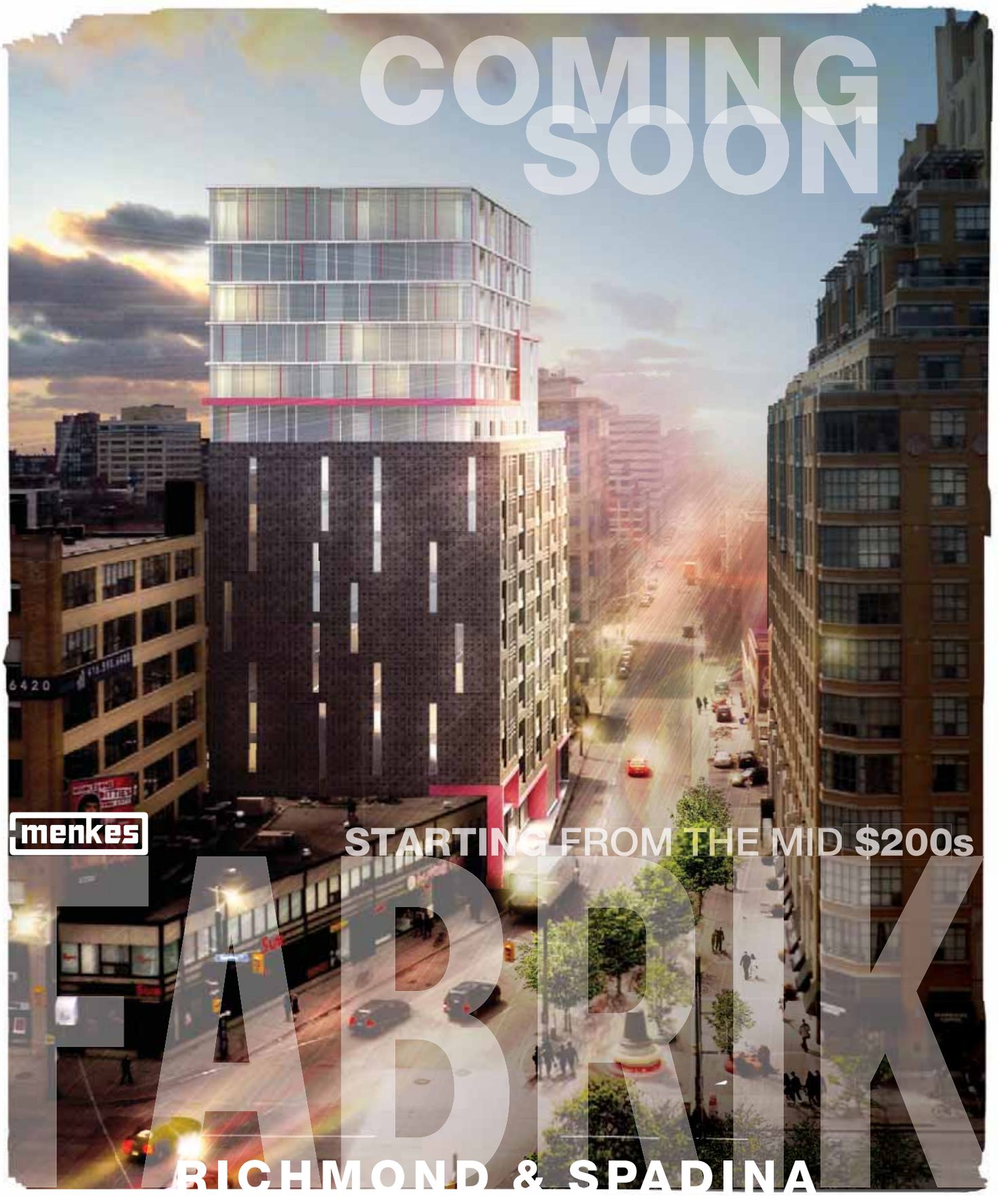

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Prices and specifications are subject to change. E.&O.E. January 2012.

Condo Hunting? Look no more

The project overview

The highly anticipated groundbreaking of Lawrence Park's newest enclave has taken place. With nine storeys and 118 units, Blythwood is the first of two towers in the Huntington community, with tentative occupancy in spring of 2013.

DUNCAN MCALLISTER

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5.29%	SCOTIA	3.10%
5.29%	TD	3.10%
2.99%	BROKER	2.75%

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Meet the condo

- **WHAT:** Blythwood at Huntington
- **BUILDER:** Tridel Corporation and Concert Properties
- **LOCATION:** 1900 Bayview Ave.
- **WEBSITE:** tridel.com
- **PHONE:** 416-485-1900
- **SIZES:** From 1,121 – 2,879 sq. ft.
- **PRICING:** From $795,000 to $2,610,000

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Rendering of Blythwood at Huntingdon condominiums

Location and transit

Centrally Located on Bayview avenue, just south of Lawrence avenue, commuters may travel north to Highway 401, or south to the Don Valley Parkway. The TTC Bayview bus stop is right outside and you can be in the downtown core within 15 minutes.

In the neighbourhood

Situated in Lawrence Park, Blythwood at Huntington overlooks the Sunnydene Park ravine. It is within easy reach of such urban pursuits as shopping, entertainment and fine dining. All are close by, while the unspoiled ravine setting serves as a quiet refuge.

Building amenities

Featuring an outfitted fitness, weight and yoga studio complete with swimming pool and steam rooms, and a party room with kitchen, bar and terrace. There's also a concierge, a boardroom and guest suites for your convenience.

Real news. Toronto

Grand Opening, Studio 2, Nelson and Duncan streets., Jan. 21 at 11 a.m., Call 647-352-7736 or visit studiocondos.ca
Grand Opening, Ivory Condos at 406 Adelaide St. E., Call 416-862-0888 or visit pureplaza.com
Waterfront Condo, Open House, 215 Fort York Blvd., Unit 2208, Jan. 21-22 from 2-4 p.m., Call 416-203-6636
Condo Open House, 373 Front St., Unit 1811, Jan. 21-22 from 2-4 p.m., Call 416-229-4835
Waterfront Condo, Open House, 628 Fleet St., Unit 1312, Jan. 21-22 from 2-4 p.m., Call 416-366-8800

DUNCAN MCALLISTER

LABOUR DISRUPTION COULD MEAN DELAYS FOR HOMEBUYERS

ROOFTOP SURFING

PAUL GOLINI JR.
HOME
@METRONEWS.CA

One of the reasons I love this industry is because there's never a dull moment, and while I can't say that every issue we face is a pleasant one, part of the job we do at BILD is to advocate for our new homebuyers.

So the issue of the day, at the time of writing, is the potential labour disruption that may result in a work stoppage by the City of Toronto's outside workers.

While this does not directly impact the City's inside workers — which includes city planners, inspectors, lawyers and other valuable professionals, all integral to ensuring that the development process runs smoothly and efficiently — there is a growing concern of the dispute extending into their territory.

As a member of the building and development industry, both from the construction and advocacy sides, I want to take a moment to point out how an extended labour disruption by the city's inside workers would impact our the new homebuyers

Our industry is looking to move over 20,000 hard-working Torontonians into their new homes or condominiums by the scheduled occupancy dates. A labour disruption by the city's inside workers will result in delays to the start of construction, completion, inspection and, at the end of the day, new homebuyers moving into their homes.

Hopefully, these concerns will dissolve without impact but no matter what happens, BILD will be reminding all the parties involved in what a work stoppage means to our consumers, because if your dream of homeownership is on delay, that's not good for anyone.

PAUL GOLINI JR. IS CHAIR OF THE BUILDING INDUSTRY AND LAND DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (BILD) AND CAN BE FOUND ON TWITTER (TWITTER.COM/BILDGTA), FACEBOOK (FACEBOOK.COM/BILDGTA), AND BILD'S OFFICIAL ONLINE BLOG (BILDBLOGS.CA).

Condo crystal ball

Can the condominium boom keep going in 2012? Metro investigates

DUNCAN MCALLISTER
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

The last two years have seen phenomenal growth in condo sales in Toronto.

With the new year at hand, we look toward the future with a few predictions from the experts. The big question on everyone's mind: Is the condo boom over? That depends on who you talk to.

The Bank of Canada warns of a cooling off of housing prices in its December 2011 economic outlook and predicts that "Certain areas of the national housing market may be more vulnerable to price declines, particularly the multiple-unit segment of the market, which is showing signs of disequilibrium."

As well, The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation recently reported that the number of multiple-unit housing starts across Canada dropped sharply by 23 per cent in November.

'The market needs a breather'

"We had two crazy sales years in a row. The market needs a breather and if sales continue at this pace, investors won't get the returns they were looking for and stop buying until the market gets better. 2012 is the year to be careful and make informed choices," cautions prominent Toronto realtor Brian Persaud.

But that certainly doesn't mean that the condo market is in decline. Matthew Slutsky, president of BuzzBuzzHome says that "The GTA was flush with new condo launches in 2011, and we are seeing builders pushing to launch a lot of product in early 2012."

He anticipates an interesting year ahead. "The condo market will be especially exciting to watch in 2012, as there are many new condo sites coming to market that are impressive on an international stage due to the size of the lots and the heights that the buildings will be reaching for."

Downtown still rules

2011 saw a lot of speculation regarding the 905 area — the suburbs surrounding Toronto's pricey downtown core.

"905 has lots of condos that can be sold, but people are not buying," says Persaud. "Investors haven't really strayed into the 905. As a result, builders have had a tougher go with sales in the past. Builders rely on investors to buy units so they could build, and investors will happily buy if they get good returns. But in the past, the downtown core has always been better for an ROI."

And watch for ultra-compact studio spaces like in Vancouver's Hastings Street.

As Emma Teitel writes in Macleans magazine, "Ranging from 226- to 291-square-feet, the new lofts, located in the once-condemned Burns Block building, are said to resemble many metropolitan apartments in Europe and Asia — with floor space roughly the size of two parking spaces, or a generous prison cell."

ISTOCK

▶ Toronto's condo sales showed no sign of slowing in 2011.

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Brightening up for spring

Karl Lohnes checks out CB2's first store in Canada • Help your home decor beat the winter blahs

DESIGN CENTRE

KARL LOHNES
HOME@METRONEWS.CA

This Saturday we say goodbye to an era of the Big Bop Bar as Crate & Barrel's sister store, CB2, opens its doors at the corner of Queen and Bathurst streets.

The once old purple-and-black shoddy building has been lovingly preserved back to its natural brickwork; ready to welcome design-savvy shoppers in the trendy Queen Street West district.

If you can't make it down to the opening on Saturday, check out the online offerings to all of Canada at CB2.com.

CB2

▶ Add trendy punches to a room with patterned fabrics, colourful lighting and flooring. Parlour Bold Chair, $899, CB2.

Spring fling

From runway to home fashions, there is one thing for sure this spring; colour is on its way! Bright and cheery, they are being used not only on small accessories, but on furnishings, lamps and flooring too.

Three of the hippest colours you'll see at CB2 are turquoise, orange and lime. When used as shots of colour you can add a wake-up colour punch to any room.

Punchy furniture

Adding colourful fabric to a headboard, chair or ottoman is a great way to inject not only colour, but pattern into a room. Just one piece can inject giant personality to a room so be judicious as to how much you add.

If reupholstering furniture then spend good bucks to have it done right; not only will the fabric be admired but so will the workmanship.

Colourful lighting

Whether it be a boldly-coloured lampshade or a base, the best accessory this season is a coloured lamp.

Don't want to get rid of your current lamps? Try recovering the existing lampshade with a trendy-coloured wallpaper or fabric for fun.

CB2

▶ Canada's first CB2 store opens Saturday at Queen and Bathurst.

CB2

The Hancock Bookcase (shown in Clover, $229) adds simple modern flair to any room.

Bold flooring

From pattern to plain, carpeting for spring is about creating a statement.

- **Simple bold shapes** and bursts of colour seem to be everywhere, but I like a simpler approach to colour by keeping the pattern plain.
- **A colourful rug** in the bath or beside the bed can help to wake up a room.
- **Use floor tiles** to mix and match your colours while keeping it very affordable.
- **Tip:** trends should be bought and easily replaced when new ones come around.

WATER-FILTER WOES

LEGAL MATTERS

JEFFREY COWAN
HOME@METRONEWS.CA

Q: We purchased our first home three months ago and there was an expensive water filtration system installed in the home that was not included in the Agreement of Purchase and Sale.

We had a lengthy time before we closed for the vendors to remove the system but on the closing date, it was still there. We contacted the vendors repeatedly and they put us off as to when they were going to come and take the system.

Finally, they sent a workman who indicated that they would have to rip the kitchen counter apart to retrieve the kitchen portion of the system.

We absolutely stopped the process and contacted the vendors who then slipped in to inappropriate language about who we were and nasty words ensued. What should we do?

A: Call your lawyer. There is some precedent that if a fixture is left on the property after closing, it becomes the new owner's property. That being said, you may not want to enter into a nasty legal battle for a filtration system that you never contracted for and want to get rid of it from the property. At the very least, the vendors could possibly retrieve their system but not without putting the kitchen back into the shape it was in before the system was removed.

At the very least, you should shield yourself from the negative communication by 'filtering' the communication through their lawyer and yours.

JEFFREY COWAN IS THE PRINCIPAL OF COWAN LAW AND CAN BE REACHED BY EMAIL AT JEFF@COWANLAW.CA.

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Get more from your floor

As we're in snow boots and slush season, entryway floors will take a beating Give this area some tough love so it's functional but still fun

DIY IDEAS

The spot where we enter our homes — and welcome guests — can be a tricky one to decorate.

It's meant to be a showcase, expressing our style and setting the tone for a visitor's stay. But the floor must withstand dripping umbrellas, muddy shoes and more.

Los Angeles-based interior designer Betsy Burnham is often approached by clients who want help with entryways. Choosing a floor covering is a priority, she says.

Here Burnham and two other experts offer tips on durable, easy-to-clean flooring that doesn't skimp on style, from cork to porcelain tile to washable rugs.

Think replaceable

Burnham and designer Brian Patrick Flynn, founder of decordemon.com, are fans of cork flooring in high-traffic areas.

Cork squares are durable, made from natural wood fibres and can handle moisture. They also absorb sound well and come in a variety of colours and patterns. "Don't just picture a bulletin board" when you think of cork, Burnham says.

Cork offers a look similar to hardwood but is less expensive. And you can replace just one tile if a section gets damaged.

Think removable

Rugs can be a great way to delineate the space at an entryway, and many styles are washable. "I've done everything from rag rugs to Turkish carpets" in entryways, Burnham says.

Rather than investing in one expensive rug, she says, buy several that can be swapped out when one is being cleaned.

Meg Caswell, host of HGTV's Meg's Great Rooms, suggests shopping for carpet remnants. Carpet stores often keep their remnants out of sight, she says, but if you ask they should direct you to them. If you find a remnant piece you want, have it cut to size.

By using a remnant, you've created a custom piece with little expense.

Think durable

Try porcelain tiles for high-traffic entryways. It "looks like stone, but it's much less expensive than actual stone. We've done charcoal-grey, big rectangles of porcelain tile, and it's so much easier to sweep out or mop up because you can get it wet," says Burnham

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Think bold

Whatever material you use for your entryway floors, avoid pale neutrals and solids in favour of slightly bolder colours, patterns, and textures that hide dirt and signs of wear.

Bold florals or sunbursts might not be your taste, says Caswell, but entryways are a great place to "be riskier and push yourself, so you can incorporate a little more of your personality. You're making that statement when someone enters your home."

BETSY BURNHAM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ A stone tiled entryway can withstand dripping umbrellas and muddy shoes.

ADVERTISING FEATURE

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Soaring 49 storeys, with magnificent views of Lake Ontario, Lago by Monarch Corporation is waterfront living at its finest. Continuous wrap around balconies maximize on panoramic views.

The rectilinear tower rests on a three storey podium and features balconies that introduce a sense of horizontal movement around the tower - further accentuating its square shape and its verticality.

The suites range in size from 365 to 1080 square feet and offer extraordinary living spaces with spacious balconies or terraces – perfect for entertaining.

The kitchens will bring out your inner epicurean with Energy Star rated brand name stainless steel appliance package, quartz countertop, extended breakfast bar or island as per plan, single oversized stainless steel undermount deep sink and porcelain kitchen backsplash.

The luxury continues into the master bedroom retreat with its built-in, ultra efficient closet organizers to maximize storage and single plank laminate flooring.

The Lago Club features "LAGO", a designer decorated special occasion/party room complete with caterer's kitchen and bar that opens onto a private balcony area with bbq facilities. "Cue Lounge" is a sports lounge with billiards table and TV located adjacent to the LAGO party room. "Silver Screen" is a fully equipped theatre for private screenings with cinema style seating, big screen viewing, projector and surround sound.

The H^2O CENTRE, is a fabulous multi-level recreation complex which includes "Pulse", a dynamic fitness room with cardio, yoga and aerobics area, offering TV viewing while you work out complete with commercial grade fitness equipment; and "Aqua", which invites you to submerge yourself into the serenity of the indoor swimming pool, or rejuvenate yourself in the hot tub or sauna.

Lago features an eco-friendly green roof system that reduces heat-island effect and the building's carbon monoxide (CO) detection system has been designed to minimize the operation of the exhaust fans in the parking garage, resulting in energy savings and reduced noise pollution.

Prices start from $199,990's and for a limited time only, purchase a suite and receive up to $25,000 off the purchase price.

For more information visit Monarch's Experience Centre at 2167 Lake Shore Blvd. W (Park Lawn Road and Lake Shore Blvd. W) or call 416 495-3544. For an overview of Monarch's communities and to register for this exceptional opportunity, to live just steps to the lake at www.monarchgroup.net.

Garage doors as works of art

RICHARD PECKETT
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

Sometimes a garage door is not all that it seems, especially if your local graffiti artists have had anything to do with it. These clever designs, priced between $265 for single garages to $470 for large capacity garages, are the work of Germany-based Thomas Sassenbach, who has made it his mission to give dowdy old doors a rather intriguing trompe l'oeil, poster revamp. "Garage doors have always been mouse grey and ugly — and very often spoil the appearance of well-maintained homes," Sassenbach says. He adds that his "deceptively realistic" 3D stylings are great because "they will cause neighbours and passers-by to stop and stare."

▶ Sassenbach's prints are a much cheaper way to get that boat you always dreamed of having.

GIVE SALT THE BOOT

CHARLES THE BUTLER

ASKCHARLES THEBUTLER@ METRONEWS.CA

FOR MORE, VISIT CHARLES MACPHERSON.COM

Although I am still travelling and am now in the Philippines, I have received numerous emails on how to deal with the salt stains on leather boots. With Old Man Winter in full swing, this is a source of irritation for both men and women.

The good news is that this is relatively easy to deal with. The only issue is staying on top of it. If you don't remove the salt regularly, you will run the risk of it permanently damaging your boots.

1. With a damp rag, remove any excess dirt on the leather boot.
2. Spray 100 per cent white vinegar on a rag or microfibre cloth and wipe the leather area of the boot, removing the salt.
3. If your cloth gets dirty, continue step 2 with a fresh clean cloth.

It's as simple as that, folks. I learned this trick from the shoeshine booth at the Waldorf Astoria hotel in New York City and it has never failed me.

Oh, and for those of you who are very particular, the vinegar packs from fast food restaurants are great when you're out and about and want a quick polish before a business meeting or dinner date!

▶ Salt is enjoyable on french fries — not on leather boots.

HAVE A QUESTION? SEND A MESSAGE TO ASKCHARLESTHEBUTLER@METRONEWS.CA

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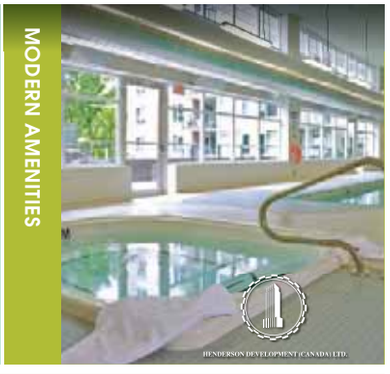

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Weekly Cookbook

Fresh, the award-winning Canadian restaurant chain, is known for serving up meatless meals made from all-natural ingredients, full of exotic flavours and energy-boosting nutrients.

In their new book, fresh, founder Ruth Tal and co-owner and head chef, Jennifer Houston, share recipes from their enticing, healthy menu.

Among the eats included are: Quinoa Onion Rings, Kale and Oyster Mushroom Salad, Sunflower Sandwich, Avocado Cashew Banana Smoothie and more.

Veg your bets on health

Think you're getting enough veggies in your daily diet? New study suggests otherwise

CELIA MILNE
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

C'mon guys. Eat your vegetables.

Most of us still don't eat enough fruits and vegetables to fend off major diseases, according to a new study done at Concordia University in Montreal. In particular, men, smokers and those with low incomes are at risk.

The World Health Organization has reported that eating five servings daily of fruit and vegetables helps in preventing diabetes, obesity, stroke and high blood pressure. Canadians, on average, fall just short of that.

"This study emphasizes the importance of eating sufficient fruits and vegetables," says lead author Messbah Sharaf, a PhD candidate at Concordia. "It helps to identify the groups that need to be targeted for nutrition promotion policies aimed at encouraging fruit and vegetable consumption."

Sharaf and his team used a sample of 93,719 people from the 2007 Canadian Community Health Survey. They used statistical models to find out what lifestyle factors determine fruit and vegetable consumption.

The groups that need to work on healthier nutrition habits are those with a low income, those with low education, males, middle-aged people, singles, smokers, people with weak social interaction and adults who live in households with no children.

Quebec, which has a long history of farming, came out on top for fruit and vegetable consumption, compared to other provinces.

West vs. East

We're supposed to eat our fruits and veggies at least five times a day for best health. But do we? A new Canadian study shows eastern provinces lag behind.

- **Canadian average** 4.95 time a day
- **Quebec** 5.5 times a day
- **British Columbia** 4.9 times a day
- **Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario** 4.8 times a day
- **Atlantic provinces** 4.4 times a day

ISTOCK

▶ Men, smokers and those with low income are among those not getting enough vegetables.

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Looking to kick-start adding more veg into your routine? Try veggie-packed Muffuletta condiment

The hero-style sandwich condiment known as muffuletta would be a wonderful snack to serve to skiers, skaters and tobogganers this winter season.

A specialty of New Orleans, the sandwich is said to have originated in 1906. It consists of a round loaf of crusty Italian bread split horizontally and filled with an assortment of marinated olives and vegetables, deli meats and cheese.

The condiment in this recipe can be used in the sandwich or served on crisps partnered with soft goat cheese.

The ingredient Sambal oelek is a sauce made with chili peppers.

THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

▶ This recipe makes about 500 ml (2 cups).

Preparation:

1. Finely chop green and kalamata olives, artichokes, sun-dried tomatoes, onion, capers, garlic and anchovies. Place in a bowl and stir to combine. Add oil, sambal oelek, vinegar, rosemary, parsley, oregano and pepper; stir again. Season with salt and pepper.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/LESLEY STOWE FIND FOODS

Ingredients:

- 175 ml (3/4 cup) green olives stuffed with pimento
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) kalamata olives, pitted
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) artichoke hearts
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) sun-dried tomatoes, softened
- 1/8 red onion
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) capers, drained
- 2 cloves garlic
- 2 anchovy fillets

- 50 ml (1/4 cup) olive oil
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) sambal oelek
- 5 ml (1 tsp) balsamic vinegar
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) chopped fresh rosemary
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) chopped fresh parsley
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) dried oregano
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) freshly ground pepper
- Sea salt and freshly ground pepper, to taste

Frustration boils over

Kleiza gets flagrant foul after knocking down Rondo during another ugly Raptors defeat

96	73
CELTICS	RAPTORS

ELISE AMENDOLA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Celtics forward Paul Pierce drives against Raptors forward James Johnson.

It was if the frustration of losing and losing and rehabbing and rehabbing and not being able to do what he wants yet on a basketball court caught up with Linas Kleiza in Boston on Wednesday night.

And when his Raptors teammates take some of that same anger and channel it into aggression and disgust with the situation, things might get better.

They probably can't get much worse.

Kleiza laid out Boston Celtic guard Rajon Rondo while Rondo was driving to the basket late in the third quarter of Boston's eventual 96-73 victory and it was one of the few moments of "force" anyone in a Toronto uniform showed all night.

Kleiza was slapped with a flagrant foul for the hit — Rondo stayed down for about three minutes before getting up to take his free throws — but the play at least showed the frustration of a six-game losing streak may be starting to bubble over.

As well it should, especially after a rather passive effort against an aging Boston team that was also riding a five-game losing streak.

The Raptors rarely played for long stretches with intensity and attitude, their defence was shoddy for far too long and, once again, they got below-average offensive production from a roster that can't seem to make up for the absence of Andrea Bargnani.

The Celtics got 21 points from Rondo before he left following the Kleiza hit and 15 from Kevin Garnett, who also got most of the fourth quarter off.

Gary Forbes had 18 for Toronto and DeMar DeRozan 11 as the Raptors shot less than 40 per cent from the floor again as a team. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Leafs-Wings Classic almost a done deal

It appears the Maple Leafs will indeed play the Detroit Red Wings in next year's Winter Classic — a game the NHL hopes will break attendance records.

A source close to the talks confirmed a deal was just about done, after similar reports in Detroit newspapers.

It's been an open secret since the last Classic, between the Rangers and the Flyers, that the NHL wanted the Leafs to play the Wings next time.

The Michigan website Mlive.com reported Wednesday that the Wings had come to terms with the University of Michigan to use Michigan Stadium — a.k.a. The Big House — for the Jan. 1, 2013, game.

The NHL would not confirm the reports.

"Winter Classic for next year is still a work in progress," said Bill Daly, the NHL's deputy commissioner. "We will make an announcement when there is something to announce."

110,000

Number of fans who could attend a game at Michigan Stadium, which would shatter the record of 71,217 set at the 2008 Winter Classic in Buffalo.

"Nothing has been finalized," said Tom Anselmi, chief operating officer of Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment. "The league is well aware we want to be in the Winter Classic, host a Winter Classic, or both."

The Leafs would become the first Canadian team to participate in the annual event, which has drawn a solid following on NBC television. Detroit owner Mike Ilitch had been lobbying for it. An Original Six matchup is a natural.

In 2010, Michigan Stadium hosted a game dubbed The Big Chill at the Big House, between Michigan and Michigan State, that drew 113,411.

Mlive.com reported that other related events, an alumni game and invitational tournament, would be held at Comerica Park, home of the Detroit Tigers. Ilitch owns the Wings and Tigers.

The league is loathe to announce anything before the all-star game, unwilling to upstage that event.

An official announcement could come in February, after the Wings return home from a road trip. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

4 sports

Leafs preview

Minnesota at Toronto
7 p.m.
TV: TSN

The Maple Leafs (22-18-5) host Minnesota (22-17-7). Both teams are winless in their last three games. The Wild have won two of their last 10. Mikko Koivu (shoulder) was hurt on Saturday and is week-to-week. Dany Heatley leads Minnesota with 13 goals, but has scored only once in his last seven games. Devin Setoguchi has two points in five games since returning from an ankle injury. Niklas Backstrom (flu) has started one game so far in January, with Josh Harding carrying most of the load in net.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Sports in pictures

PHOTOS
1. ELSA/GETTY IMAGES FILE
2. DOUG PENSINGER/GETTY IMAGES FILE
3. JEFF GROSS/GETTY IMAGES FILE
4. JONATHAN DANIEL/GETTY IMAGES FILE

1 Tim Tebow is expected to make a full recovery, without surgery, from rib, lung and chest injuries he sustained in the Denver Broncos' AFC division loss to the New England Patriots last weekend.
ESPN first reported Wednesday that Tebow got hurt on a third-quarter tackle during Denver's 45-10 loss. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

2 The St. Louis Blues have rewarded goaltender Brian Elliott for being named an NHL all-star. The Blues signed the veteran goaltender to a two-year contract Wednesday reportedly worth $3.6 million US . **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

3 David Beckham is staying in Los Angeles for another two years after signing a new contract with the Galaxy on Wednesday. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

4 Edmonton Oilers coach Tom Renney says Taylor Hall is doubtful for Thursday's game against the St. Louis Blues.
Hall sat out Tuesday's game after cutting his head when he accidentally made contact with a teammate during pre-game warm-ups. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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researchstudyADHD@gmail.com

Who: Teens ages 14 to 16 with a diagnosis of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
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Rangers strike deal with Darvish

Yu Darvish is coming to North America.

Japan's best pitcher and the Texas Rangers agreed before Wednesday's deadline to a $60-million US, six-year contract. In addition to the salary, the Rangers will pay a posting fee of about $51.7 million to the Hokkaido Nippon Ham Fighters of Japan's Pacific League.

The deal came at the end of a 30-day negotiating window that began Dec. 19 when the Rangers' bid to negotiate with the pitcher was accepted. Had a deal not been reached in time, Darvish would have remained with the Fighters and Texas would have kept the posting fee.

When the deal was reached in Texas by his agents Don Nomura and Arn Tellem, the 25-year-old Darvish was home in Japan, where he returned for training after a visit to Texas two weeks ago. The Rangers plan to introduce Darvish on Friday.

Darvish had a 93-38 record with a 1.99 earned-run average over seven seasons in Japan. The six-foot-five right-hander was a two-time Pacific League MVP and a five-time all-star. He led the league in strikeouts three times, in ERA twice and won two Gold Gloves.

Rangers president Nolan Ryan, a Hall of Fame pitcher who pitched a record 27 major league seasons, was impressed by Darvish's size and attitude about wanting to compete when they met for the first time earlier this month.

"To me, he represented all I had been led to believe, so I felt really good about it," Ryan said last week.

The deal surpasses what Daisuke Matsuzaka got when he left Japan and signed with the Boston Red Sox just more than five years ago. Dice-K got a $52-million, six-year deal and the Red Sox also had to pay a $51.111-million posting fee that was the highest for a Japanese player before the Rangers bid for Darvish. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

A late look at Leafs' mid-season grades

THE HOCKEY NEWS

ADAM PROTEAU
TORONTO@METRONEWS.CA

With the Maple Leafs a little beyond the halfway point of the regular season, there's no better time to assign them mid-term grades. (OK, the ideal time would've been after 41 games, but you know what schedules are like.)

STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Jonas Gustavsson has been the Leafs' most solid goaltender just past the season's halfway point.

Forwards

Phil Kessel: Has done all that was asked of him and then some. GRADE: A-

Joffrey Lupul: Management loves him. Surprise of the year. GRADE: A+

Tyler Bozak: Filled in admirably on top two lines, but not long-term solution. GRADE: B-

Tim Connolly: Missed time with injuries, but when healthy, a valuable addition. GRADE: B+

Mikhail Grabovski: On same points pace as last year, with fewer offensive opportunities. Very valuable. GRADE: B+

Nikolai Kulemin: Only five goals so far after 30 last year, but a hard worker. GRADE: C+

Matthew Lombardi: Hasn't been healthy for entire season, but speed, experience helps. GRADE: B-

Mike Brown: Gritty worker bee adds edge to lineup when healthy. GRADE: C-

David Steckel: Faceoff specialist has chipped in with seven goals. GRADE: A-

Jay Rosehill: Enforcer has only appeared in 16 games; a non-factor. GRADE: C-

Nazem Kadri: Youngster spent most of year in AHL; shows flashes of talent, but still needs more consistency. GRADE: B-

Joey Crabb: Grinder gives third and fourth lines a boost with physical play. GRADE: B

Darryl Boyce: After recall from Marlies, has been a key plugger. GRADE: B+

Colby Armstrong: Hard-luck guy can't stay healthy. GRADE: INCOMPLETE

Defencemen

Dion Phaneuf: Captain has been Leafs' best defenceman, sets tone for team. GRADE: A

Luke Schenn: Has lost his spot as defence corps' golden child. Could be traded. GRADE: C

Mike Komisarek: Veteran has played best hockey since joining Leafs, but still not consistent enough. GRADE: C

Jake Gardiner: Rookie shocked everyone by making team out of training camp, but still has decent-size learning curve ahead. GRADE: B-

Cody Franson: Started disastrously, but earned and kept a spot with smart two-way play. GRADE: B-

John-Michael Liles: Before he suffered a concussion, was up there with Phaneuf as one of team's top blue-liners. GRADE: B+

Carl Gunnarsson: Underrated Swede has better all-around game than first glance might suggest. GRADE: B+

Keith Aulie: Sophomore had job stolen by Gardiner, but earned it back through strong play with the Marlies. GRADE: B-

Goaltenders

James Reimer: Started season well but following a lengthy recovery from a concussion, hasn't looked like a No. 1. GRADE: C

Jonas Gustavsson: Early inconsistency nearly earned him a ticket to the AHL, but he's rebounded to claim starting job. For now, at least. GRADE: B-

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IMPROVE HEALTH

Rapid Cleanse is a therapeutic strength 7 day cleansing program that works to cleanse and detoxify your entire body. Cleansing will help to improve your health and increase your energy.

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Research shows that omega 3 fatty acids, particularly EPA, from fish oil help to elevate mood. Super Critical Omega is the most concentrated fish oil available and with 1000 units of Vitamin D in every capsule, it is like sunshine in a bottle!

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NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-NY Rangers	44	29	11	1	3	125	90	62	14-4-0-2	15-7-1-1	7-3-0-0	W1
d-Boston	43	29	13	0	1	156	88	59	16-7-0-1	13-6-0-0	6-4-0-0	L1
d-Washington	45	25	18	0	2	128	127	52	17-6-0-1	8-12-0-1	7-3-0-0	W1
Philadelphia	44	27	13	2	2	149	129	58	11-6-1-1	16-7-1-1	6-4-0-0	W1
Ottawa	48	26	16	4	2	149	150	58	14-9-0-1	12-7-4-1	8-1-1-0	W1
New Jersey	45	26	17	1	1	126	126	54	12-7-0-1	14-10-1-0	6-3-1-0	W3
Pittsburgh	45	24	17	2	2	136	117	52	12-8-2-0	12-9-0-2	4-6-0-0	W3
Florida	44	21	14	4	5	112	123	51	11-5-1-5	10-9-3-0	3-4-2-1	L2
Toronto	45	22	18	3	2	139	140	49	12-7-2-2	10-11-1-0	4-5-1-0	L3
Winnipeg	46	21	20	3	2	116	133	47	14-8-0-1	7-12-3-1	4-6-0-0	W1
Buffalo	46	19	22	3	2	114	140	43	11-9-3-2	8-13-0-0	2-6-1-1	L3
Montreal	46	17	21	2	6	116	126	42	8-10-2-4	9-12-0-1	4-5-0-1	L1
NY Islanders	44	17	21	4	2	106	134	40	10-11-3-0	7-10-1-2	6-4-0-0	W1
Tampa Bay	45	18	23	1	3	126	159	40	12-7-0-1	6-16-1-2	4-5-0-1	W1
Carolina	48	16	24	4	4	124	156	40	11-11-0-3	5-13-4-1	4-4-0-2	L2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Chicago	47	28	13	3	3	156	135	62	18-5-1-3	10-8-2-0	5-3-2-0	W2
d-Vancouver	47	28	15	0	4	151	117	60	12-6-0-3	16-9-0-1	5-3-0-2	L2
d-San Jose	43	26	12	3	2	125	100	57	15-7-2-0	11-5-1-2	7-1-1-1	W1
Detroit	46	30	15	1	0	149	105	61	18-2-1-0	12-13-0-0	8-2-0-0	W4
St. Louis	45	27	12	1	5	116	94	60	19-3-1-2	8-9-0-3	6-2-1-1	W2
Nashville	46	26	16	3	1	125	123	56	14-7-2-1	12-9-1-0	8-2-0-0	L1
Los Angeles	47	23	15	4	5	105	105	55	13-10-0-3	10-5-4-2	5-1-2-2	W1
Minnesota	46	22	17	2	5	106	118	51	12-6-1-2	10-11-1-3	2-6-0-2	L3
Dallas	45	24	19	0	2	122	129	50	13-8-0-2	11-11-0-0	4-5-0-1	L3
Colorado	47	24	21	2	0	120	134	50	13-11-0-0	11-10-2-0	5-4-1-0	L1
Phoenix	46	21	18	3	4	120	119	49	9-8-2-1	12-10-1-3	3-3-2-2	W1
Calgary	47	21	20	3	3	112	133	48	13-6-1-1	8-14-2-2	3-5-1-1	L2
Edmonton	45	17	24	1	3	116	131	38	11-7-1-2	6-17-0-1	2-7-1-0	L1
Anaheim	44	15	22	3	4	113	138	37	10-12-1-0	5-10-2-4	6-3-1-0	W2
Columbus	45	13	27	1	4	110	149	31	8-12-1-2	5-15-0-2	4-5-0-1	W1

d — division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Last night's results
Washington 3 Montreal 0
Chicago 6 Buffalo 2
Florida at Colorado
Phoenix at Anaheim
Tuesday's results
Ottawa 3 Toronto 2
Columbus 4 Edmonton 2
Los Angeles 3 Vancouver 2 (SO)
San Jose 2 Calgary 1 (SO)
New Jersey 5 Winnipeg 1
Detroit 3 Dallas 2 (SO)
N.Y. Islanders 3 Washington 0
N.Y. Rangers 3 Nashville 0
Philadelphia 5 Minnesota 1
Pittsburgh 2 Carolina 1 (SO)
Tampa Bay 5 Boston 3

Tonight's games
All Times Eastern
Minnesota at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Boston at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Pittsburgh at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Nashville at Columbus, 7 p.m.
Edmonton at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Buffalo at Winnipeg, 8:30 p.m.
Detroit at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Calgary at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.
Ottawa at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.
Tomorrow's games
Montreal at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
Washington at Carolina, 7 p.m.
Florida at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.

CAPITALS 3, CANADIENS 0

First Period
1. Washington, Perreault 4 (Orlov, Eakin) 4:41
2. Washington, Johansson 10 (Brouwer, Hamrlik) 8:23
Penalties — Hendricks Wash, Bourque Mtl (fighting) 1:15, Gorges Mtl (roughing) 8:36, Erskine Wash (interference) 13:01, Wideman Wash (playing with broken stick) 15:14.
Second Period
3. Washington, Ovechkin 19 (Semin, Wideman) 10:44 (pp)
Penalties — Halpern Wash (holding) 2:48, Darche Mtl (double high-sticking) 7:53.
Third Period
No Scoring.
Penalties — Erskine Wash (elbowing, double high-sticking) 2:34, Pacioretty Mtl (interference) 5:19, Ovechkin Wash (delay of game) 9:23, Emelin Mtl (interference) 16:36.
Shots

Washington	5	5	6	16
Montreal	7	7	17	31

Goal — Washington: Neuvirth (W,6-7-2); Montreal: Price (L,15-17-8). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Washington: 1-5; Montreal: 0-7.
Referees — Gord Dwyer, Stephen Walkom.
Linesmen — Pierre Champoux, Jonny Murray.
Attendance — 21,273 (21,273) at Montreal.

LATE TUESDAY

KINGS 3, CANUCKS 2 (SO)

First Period
1. Los Angeles, Penner 3 (Doughty, Scuderi) 9:06
Penalty — Fraser LA (roughing) 15:11.
Second Period
2. Vancouver, D.Sedin 20 (Edler, Burrows) 2:41 (pp)
3. Los Angeles, Williams 9 (Mitchell, Kopitar) 15:14 (pp)
Penalties — Mitchell LA (tripping) 1:45, Fraser LA, Ballard Vcr (major) 3:45, Lapierre Vcr (cross-checking) 13:22, Richards LA (slashing) 15:50, Hansen Vcr (hooking) 18:50.
Third Period
4. Vancouver, Booth 6 (Hansen, Hodgson) 5:00
Penalty — Doughty LA (hooking) 8:51.
Overtime
No Scoring.
Penalties — None.
Shootout (Los Angeles wins 2-1)
Vancouver (1) — Raymond, miss; Hodgson, miss; Burrows, goal; **Los Angeles (2)** — Williams, goal; Johnson, miss; Richards, goal.
Shots

Los Angeles	15	10	12	4—41
Vancouver	10	9	12	3—34

Goal — Los Angeles: Quick (W,20-11-8); Vancouver: Luongo (SOL,18-10-4). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Los Angeles: 1-2; Vancouver: 1-4.
Referees — Chris Lee, Justin St. Pierre. **Linesmen** — Tony Sericolo, Mark Wheler.
Attendance — 18,860 (18,860) at Vancouver.

SHARKS 2, FLAMES 1 (SO)

First Period
No Scoring.
Penalty — Glencross Cal (tripping) 9:30.
Second Period
1. Calgary, Butler 2 (Iginla, Backlund) 12:07
Penalty — Brodie Cal (boarding) 15:30.
Third Period
2. San Jose, Mitchell 5 (Handzus, Burns) 10:44
Penalties — None.
Overtime
No Scoring.
Penalties — Cammalleri Cal, Vlasic SJ (roughing) 5:00.
Shootout (San Jose wins 2-0)
Calgary (0) — Iginla, miss; Cammalleri, miss.
San Jose (2) — Marleau, miss; Handzus, goal; Burns, goal.
Shots

Calgary	6	11	8	3—28
San Jose	4	10	14	3—31

Goal — Calgary: Kiprusoff (L,20-15-3); San Jose: Niemi (W,20-8-5). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Calgary: 0-0; San Jose: 0-2.
Referees — Rob Martell, Mike Leggo. **Linesmen** — Mike Cvik, Darren Gibbs.
Att. — 17,562 (17,562) at San Jose, Calif.

SOCCER

ENGLAND

FA CUP
THIRD ROUND — REPLAY
Yesterday's results
Wrexham 1 Brighton 1 (OT)
Brighton wins 5-4 on penalty kicks
Wolverhampton Wanderers 0 Birmingham 1

SCOTLAND

SCOTTISH CUP
FOURTH ROUND — REPLAY
Yesterday's result
Dunfermline 1 Inverness 3 (OT)

SPAIN

COPA DEL REY
QUARTER-FINALS — FIRST LEG
Yesterday's results
Athletic Bilbao 2 Mallorca 0
Real Madrid 1 Barcelona 2

ITALY

ITALIAN CUP
Yesterday's result
AC Milan 2 Novara 1 (OT)

NFL PLAYOFFS

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Sunday's games
All Times Eastern
Baltimore (13-4) at New England (14-3), 3 p.m.
N.Y. Giants (11-7) at San Francisco (14-3), 6:30 p.m.

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Chicago	13	3	.813	—
Indiana	9	3	.750	2
d-Philadelphia	10	4	.714	2
d-Orlando	10	4	.714	2
Atlanta	10	4	.714	2
Miami	9	4	.692	2½
Cleveland	6	7	.462	5½
New York	6	8	.429	6
Boston	5	8	.385	6½
Milwaukee	4	9	.308	7½
New Jersey	4	11	.267	8½
Toronto	4	11	.267	8½
Detroit	3	11	.214	9
Charlotte	3	12	.200	9½
Washington	2	12	.143	10

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Oklahoma City	12	3	.800	—
Utah	9	4	.692	2
d-San Antonio	10	5	.667	2
d-L.A. Lakers	10	5	.667	2
Denver	10	5	.667	2
L.A. Clippers	7	4	.636	3
Portland	8	5	.615	3
Dallas	8	6	.571	3½
Memphis	6	6	.500	4½
Houston	7	7	.500	4½
Minnesota	5	8	.385	6
Phoenix	5	9	.357	6½
Golden State	5	9	.357	6½
Sacramento	4	10	.286	7½
New Orleans	3	10	.231	8

d-division leaders ranked in top four positions.

Last night's results
San Antonio 85 Orlando 83 (OT)
Washington 105 Oklahoma City 102
Denver 108 Philadelphia 104 (OT)
Boston 96 Toronto 73
New Jersey 107 Golden State 100
Phoenix 91 New York 88
Memphis at New Orleans
Detroit at Minnesota
Portland at Atlanta
Indiana at Sacramento
Dallas at L.A. Clippers
Tuesday's results
Golden State 105 Cleveland 95
Orlando 96 Charlotte 89
Miami 120 San Antonio 98
Chicago 118 Phoenix 97
Houston 97 Detroit 80
Denver 105 Milwaukee 95
Utah 108 L.A. Clippers 79

Tonight's games
All Times Eastern
New Orleans at Houston, 8 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Miami, 8 p.m.
Dallas at Utah, 10:30 p.m.
Tomorrow's games
Portland at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Denver at Washington, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Phoenix at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Chicago at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Memphis at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at New York, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Orlando, 8 p.m.
Sacramento at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Indiana at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.
Minnesota at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

TENNIS

AUSTRALIAN OPEN
At Melbourne, Australia

MEN
Singles — Second Round
Rafael Nadal (2), Spain, def. Tommy Haas, Germany, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4.
Roger Federer (3), Switzerland def. Andreas Beck, Germany, walkover.
Tomas Berdych (7), Czech Republic, def. Olivier Rochus, Belgium, 6-1, 6-0, 7-6 (4).
Alejandro Falla, Colombia, def. Mardy Fish (8), U.S., 7-6 (4), 6-3, 7-6 (6).
Nicolas Almagro (10), Spain, def. Grigor Dimitrov, Bulgaria, 4-6, 6-3, 6-7 (4), 6-4, 6-0.
Juan Martin del Potro (11), Argentina, def. Blaz Kavcic, Slovenia, 6-4, 7-5, 6-3.
Alexandr Dolgopolov (13), Ukraine, def. Tobias Kamke, Germany, 4-6, 6-1, 6-1, 3-6, 8-6.
John Isner (16), U.S., def. David Nalbandian, Argentina, 4-6, 6-3, 2-6 ,7-6 (5), 10-8.
Feliciano Lopez (18), Spain, def. Flavio Cipolla, Italy, 7-5, 7-6 (4), 6-2.
Stanislas Wawrinka (21), Switzerland, def. Marcos Baghdatis, Cyprus, 7-6 (3), 6-4, 5-7, 6-1.
Kevin Anderson (30), South Africa, def. Sergiy Stakhovsky, Ukraine, 3-6, 6-1, 7-6 (3), 6-3.
Yen-hsun Lu, Taiwan, def. Florent Serra, France, 7-5, 6-2, 6-2.
Philipp Kohlschreiber, Germany, def. Pere Riba, Spain, 6-0, 4-0, retired.
Lukas Lacko, Slovakia, def. Donald Young, U.S., 6-3 6-1 3-6 6-3.
Bernard Tomic, Australia, def. Sam Querrey, U.S., 3-6, 6-3, 7-6 (3), 6-3.
Ivo Karlovic, Croatia, def. Carlos Berlocq, Argentina, 7-6 (4), 3-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Doubles — First Round
Mahesh Bhupathi and Rohan Bopanna (4), India, def. Matthew Ebden and Chris Guccione, Australia, 5-7, 6-4, 6-4.
Mariusz Fyrstenberg and Marcin Matkowski (6), Poland, def. Jamie Delgado and Jonathan Marray, Britain, 6-4, 6-4.
Aisam-ul-Haq Qureshi, Pakistan, and Jean-Julien Rojer (8), Curacao, def. Ivan Ljubicic, Croatia, and Cedrik-Marcel Stebe, Germany, 6-3, 7-6 (11).
Frantisek Cermak, Czech Republic, and Filip Polasek (11), Slovakia, def. Julien Benneteau and Nicolas Mahut, France, 6-4, 7-6 (1).
Santiago Gonzalez, Mexico, and Christopher Kas (12), Germany, def. Marcel Granollers, Spain, and Lukasz Kubot, Poland, 6-4, 7-6 (1).
Scott Lipsky and Rajeev Ram (13), U.S., def. Albert Montanes and Albert Ramos, Spain, 7-6 (4), 7-6 (8).
Simone Bolelli and Fabio Fognini (14), Italy, def. Rui Machado, Portugal, and Lukas Rosol, Czech Republic, 5-7, 6-4, 6-2.
Colin Fleming and Ross Hutchins (15), Britain, def. Ryan Harrison and Ryan Sweeting, U.S., 7-5, 7-6 (2).
Marc Lopez and David Marrero, Spain, def. Andreas Seppi and Simone Vagnozzi, Italy, 3-6, 6-4, 6-3.
Juan Ignacio Chela and Eduardo Schwank, Argentina, def. Dustin Brown, Germany, and Ivan Dodig, Croatia, 6-1, 6-4.
Philipp Marx, Germany, and **Adil Shamasdin, Pickering, Ont.**, def. Thomaz Bellucci and Marcelo Melo, Brazil, 7-5, 7-6 (7).
Alex Bogomolov, Jr. and Igor Kunitsyn, Russia, def. Mikhail Kukushkin, Kazakhstan, and Dmitry Tursunov, Russia, 6-4, 7-5.
Lleyton Hewitt and Peter Luczak, Australia, def. Matthias Bachinger and Philipp Kohlschreiber, Germany, 7-5, 6-3.
Leander Paes, India, and Radek Stepanek, Czech Republic, def. Greg Jones and John-Patrick Smith, Australia, 6-2, 6-2.
Ricardo Mello and Joao Souza, Brazil, def. Alejandro Falla and Santiago Giraldo, Colombia, 6-7 (3), 7-5, 6-4.

WOMEN
Singles — Second Round
Caroline Wozniacki (1), Denmark, def. Anna Tatishvili, Georgia, 6-1, 7-6 (4).
Victoria Azarenka (3), Belarus, def. Casey Dellacqua, Australia, 6-1, 6-0.
Li Na (5), China, def. Olivia Rogowska, Australia, 6-2, 6-2.
Agnieszka Radwanska (8), Poland, def. Paula Ormaechea, Argentina, 6-3, 6-1.
Kim Clijsters (11), Belgium, def. Stephanie Foretz Gacon, France, 6-0, 6-1.
Jelena Jankovic (13), Serbia, def. Chang Kai-chen, Taiwan, 6-4, 6-2.
Romina Oprandi, Italy, def. Francesca Schiavone (10), Italy, 6-4, 6-3.
Iveta Benesova, Czech Republic, def. Peng Shuai (16), China, 6-2, 6-4.
Daniela Hantuchova (20), Slovakia, def. Lesia Tsurenko, Ukraine, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3.
Julia Goerges (22), Germany, def. Eleni Daniilidou, Greece, 6-2, 2-0, retired.
Anabel Medina Garrigues (26), Spain, def. Olga Govortsova, Belarus, 6-1, 6-0.
Monica Niculescu (31), Romania, def. Pauline Parmentier, France, 4-6, 6-4, 6-1.
Mona Barthel, Germany, def. Petra Cetkovska (32), Czech Republic, 7-5, 6-3.
Nina Bratchikova, Russia, def. Alberta Brianti, Italy, 6-2, 6-1.
Christina McHale, U.S., def. Marina Erakovic, New Zealand, 3-6, 7-6 (4), 6-3.
Galina Voskoboeva, Kazakhstan, def. Tsvetana Pironkova, Bulgaria, 6-4, 6-4.
Doubles — First Round
Liezel Huber and Lisa Raymond (2), U.S., def. Anabel Medina Garrigues, Spain, and Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova, Russia, 6-3, 6-1.
Vania King, U.S., and Yaroslava Shvedova (3), Kazakhstan, def. Kristina Barrois and Anna-Lena Groenefeld, Germany, 1-6, 6-3, 6-1.
Maria Kirilenko and Nadia Petrova (5), Russia, def. Lourdes Dominguez Lino, Spain, and Tamarine Tanasugarn, Thailand, 6-2, 4-6, 6-1.
Andrea Hlavackova and Lucie Hradecka (7), Czech Republic, def. Magdalena Rybarikova, Slovakia, and Klara Zakopalova, Czech Republic, 6-2, 7-5.
Natalie Grandin, South Africa, and Vladimira Uhlirova (9), Czech Republic. def. Sorana Cirstea, Romania, and Lucie Safarova, Czech Republic, 2-6, 6-4, 6-4.
Iveta Benesova and Barbora Zahlavova Strycova (10), Czech Republic, def. Akgul Amanmuradova, Uzbekistan, and Mariya Koryttseva, Ukraine, 6-4, 6-1.
Sara Errani and Roberta Vinci (11), Italy, def. Tammi Patterson and Storm Sanders, Australia, 6-0, 6-0.
Vera Dushevina, Russia, and Shahar Peer (16), Israel, def. Sofia Arvidsson and Johanna Larsson, Sweden, 7-5, 6-3.
Alexandra Dulgheru, Romania, and Virginie Razzano, France, def. Greta Arn, Hungary, and Olga Savchuk, Ukraine, 6-4, 6-0.
Alla Kudryavtseva and Ekaterina Makarova, Russia, def. Bojana Jovanovski, Serbia, and Michaella Krajicek, Netherlands, 7-6 (1), 4-6, 6-3.
Dominika Cibulkova, Slovakia, and Jill Craybas, U.S., def. Ashleigh Barty, Australia, and Laura Robson, Britain, 3-6, 6-2, 6-3.
Svetlana Kuznetsova and Vera Zvonareva, Russia, def. Alize Cornet, France, and Olga Govortsova, Belarus, 7-6 (4), 6-4.
Andreja Klepac, Slovenia, and Alicja Rosolska, Poland, def. Kateryna Bondarenko, Ukraine, and Jelena Dokic, Australia, 7-6 (6), 7-5
Rika Fujiwara and Ayumi Morita, Japan, def. Ksenia Pervak, Kazakhstan, and Sloane Stephens, U.S., 7-6 (4), 6-4.
Klaudia Jans-Ignacik and Urszula Radwanska, Poland, def. Daniella Jeflea and Viktorija Rajicic, Australia, 6-4, 7-5.
Silvia Soler-Espinosa and Carla Suarez Navarro, Spain, def. Chuang Chia-jung, Taiwan, and Marina Erakovic, New Zealand, 6-3, 7-6 (2).
Anastasia and Arina Rodionova, Australia, def. Isabella Holland and Sally Peers, Australia, 6-2, 6-1.

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Raonic moves on to 3rd round Down Under

Thornhill native put to test by German Petzschner at Aussie Open

Milos Raonic reached the third round of the Australian Open for the second straight year as the 23rd-seed Canadian beat Germany's Philipp Petzschner 6-4, 5-7, 6-2, 7-5 on Thursday.

The 21-year-old from Thornhill, struggled to close out the win in the same venue where he first began his surge to the ATP top-25.

MARK BAKER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Milos Raonic serves to Philipp Petzschner on Thursday.

Raonic was frustrated against the 63rd-ranked Petzschner. As he tried to serve out the victory leading 5-4 in the fourth set, a wide line call drew Raonic's ire. He went on to lose the game.

But Raonic bounced back to break, 6-5 and fired an ace to save a break point in the 12th game. Raonic fought through to finally closed Petzschner after nearly three hours.

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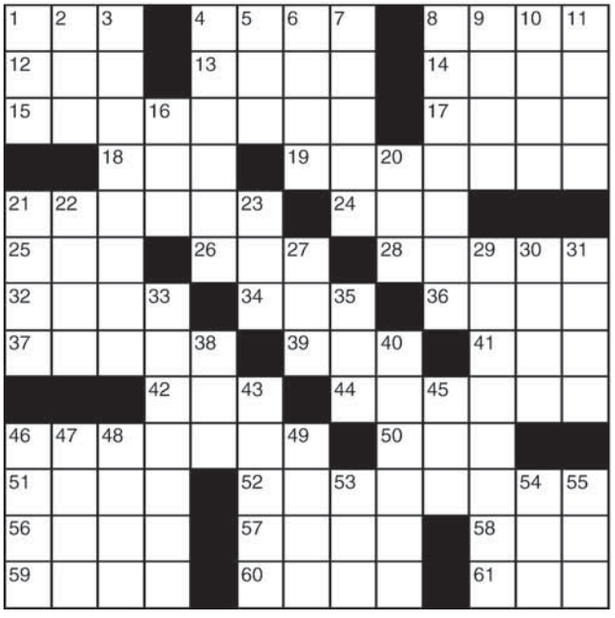

Across

1 Vacationing
4 Wasn't colorfast
8 Ohio nine
12 Neither mate
13 Ethereal
14 List-ending abbr.
15 Blackmailer's task
17 — mater
18 Barracks bed
19 Apparent
21 Incalculable
24 Witness
25 Island neckwear
26 Conclusion
28 Door fastener
32 Corner
34 Do sums
36 Salver
37 Cancel
39 "— the season ..."
41 Cleo's slayer
42 Calendar abbr.
44 Type of raincoat
46 Vanquish
50 Director's cry
51 Stead
52 Double-take, e.g.
56 Actress Jessica
57 Barn roof decoration
58 Sphere
59 "Hey, you!"
60 Eastern potentate
61 PBS funding org.

Down

1 Individual
2 "Family Guy" airer
3 Bit
4 Fight
5 Roman 52
6 Cupid's counterpart
7 Units of force
8 Beef, e.g.
9 Needle case
10 "Phooey!"
11 Smeltery refuse
16 Bill's partner
20 Conger or moray
21 Radius neighbor
22 Element no. 10
23 Modern-day evidence
27 Old insecticide
29 Tension caused by pulling
30 Moolah
31 Syringe, for short
33 Fruit used in preserves
35 Brief swim
38 Rawls or Reed
40 World Cup game
43 Gall
45 Eccentric
46 Applaud
47 Rembrandt works
48 Beaks
49 Stationery unit
53 Singer DiFranco
54 Tramcar load
55 Cagers' org.

▶ Yesterday's answer

A	T	M		D	U	A	L		D	I	A	L	
D	U	E		E	R	G	O		E	R	I	E	
D	N	A		B	L	A	C	K	B	E	L	T	
S	A	L	S	A			H	E	R				
			E	R	L	E		G	I	D	D	Y	
B	L	A	C	K	I	C	E		S	O	D	A	
A	I	D		S	M	O	G	S		P	A	L	
B	L	O	W		B	L	A	C	K	E	Y	E	
A	T	S	E	A		I	D	E	A				
			B	U	S			N	Y	L	O	N	
B	L	A	C	K	H	O	L	E		A	G	E	
L	I	M	A		O	D	O	R		P	R	O	
T	E	A	M		E	D	G	Y		P	E	N	

Sudoku

		8	7			3		
3	5			9	2			
9			3				1	
7				4				3
		5				6		
6				3				4
	9				1			2
			4	2			7	9
		7			6	8		

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

4	7	6	5	8	2	9	1	3
8	2	3	1	9	4	7	5	6
5	1	9	7	3	6	8	2	4
2	6	5	8	4	7	1	3	9
1	9	8	3	6	5	4	7	2
3	4	7	2	1	9	6	8	5
7	3	4	9	5	1	2	6	8
9	5	2	6	7	8	3	4	1
6	8	1	4	2	3	5	9	7

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Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20
There is a luck factor working in your favour at the moment, but you still have to work hard.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21
Start making new career plans today. Get ahead and make sure you stay ahead.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21
The planets are very much on your side at the moment, so don't be afraid to take a few risks.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22
Someone may sound sincere but according to the planets, he or she is trying to trick you into believing something that is simply not true.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23
Partners may seem more dominant than usual today, but the only power they have over you is the power you give them.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22
If you want to be on top of your game today, a positive mental attitude is an absolute must.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23
This is potentially a great time of the year for you but you've got to be way more upbeat.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22
If you poke your nose where it is not wanted today, you run the risk of losing a friend's support.

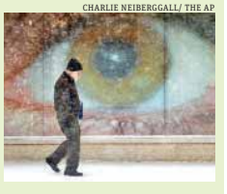
♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21
The Sun soon moves into one of the better areas of your chart and money worries won't a burden.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20
If you have been looking to end an association that has become a bit of a burden, now is the time.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18
Life's pace is about to pick up on every front, but that's OK because you have been operating well below capacity in recent weeks.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20
There's danger in deciding to take the easy way out of a dilemma. Don't do it. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption contest


CHARLIE NEIBERGGALL/ THE AP

WIN!

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Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in Thursday's Metro.

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THE DRIVE NOW PAY LATER event

0% FINANCING FOR UP TO **84** MONTHS

AND

0 PAYMENTS FOR UP TO **90** DAYS◊

Limited model shown

2012 SANTA FE

Powerful & efficient – the true definition of a cross-over

OWN IT **$143**† BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT | WITH **0%** FINANCING FOR **84** MONTHS | AND **$0** DOWN PAYMENT

SELLING PRICE $25,895• SANTA FE GL 2.4 6-SPEED. DELIVERY, DESTINATION & FEES INCLUDED PLUS HST.

HIGHWAY **7.7**L/100 KM **37** MPG▼

THE BEST-SELLING PASSENGER CAR BRAND IN CANADA.‡

Limited model shown

OWN IT **$121**† BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT | WITH **2.65%** FINANCING FOR **72** MONTHS | AND **$0** DOWN PAYMENT

SELLING PRICE $17,380• ELANTRA L 6-SPEED. DELIVERY, DESTINATION & FEES INCLUDED. PLUS HST.

HIGHWAY **4.9**L/100 KM **58** MPG▼

NORTH AMERICAN CAR OF THE YEAR

2012 ELANTRA SEDAN

2012 North American Car of the Year

AJAC www.ajac.ca

Automobile Journalists Association of Canada

AJAC's Best new small car over $21K

OWN IT **$141**† BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT | WITH **1.29%** FINANCING FOR **84** MONTHS | AND **$0** DOWN PAYMENT

SELLING PRICE $24,400• SONATA GL 6-SPEED. DELIVERY, DESTINATION & FEES INCLUDED. PLUS HST.

HIGHWAY **5.7**L/100 KM **50** MPG▼

2012 SONATA

★★★★★ AWARDED THE HIGHEST GOVERNMENT CRASH SAFETY RATING U.S. NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

5-Star safety rating▲

Limited model shown

Limited model shown

OWN IT **$126**† BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT | WITH **1.29%** FINANCING FOR **84** MONTHS | AND **$0** DOWN PAYMENT

SELLING PRICE $21,895• TUCSON L 5-SPEED. DELIVERY, DESTINATION & FEES INCLUDED. PLUS HST.

HIGHWAY **7.4**L/100 KM **38** MPG▼

2012 TUCSON

Stylish cross-over utility vehicle

5 YEAR WARRANTY

100,000 KM COMPREHENSIVE LIMITED WARRANTY◊

5-year/100,000 km Comprehensive Limited Warranty
5-year/100,000 km Powertrain Warranty
5-year/100,000 km Emission Warranty

HyundaiCanada.com

"The Hyundai names, logos, product names, feature names, images and slogans are trademarks owned by Hyundai Auto Canada Corp. †Finance offers available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services based on a new 2012 Santa Fe GL 2.4 6-Speed/2012 Elantra L 6-Speed/2012 Sonata GL 6-Speed/2012 Tucson L 5-speed with an annual finance rate of 0%/2.65%/1.29%/1.29% for 84/72/84/84 months. Bi-weekly payment is $143/$121/$141/$126. No down payment is required. Cost of Borrowing is $0/$1,427/$1,124/$1,009. Finance offers include Delivery and Destination of $1,760/$1,495/$1,565/$1,760, fees, levies, charges and all applicable taxes (excluding HST). Registration, insurance, PPSA and license fees are excluded. Delivery and destination charge includes freight, PDI, dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. Financing example: 2012 Elantra L 6-speed for $17,380 at 2.65% per annum equals $121 bi-weekly for 72 months for a total obligation of $18,807. Cash price is $17,380. Cost of Borrowing is $1,427. Example price includes Delivery and Destination of $1,495, fees, levies, charges and all applicable taxes (excluding HST). Registration, insurance, PPSA and license fees are excluded. ◊0 payments for up to 90 days (payment deferral) is available on all new in-stock 2011 or 2012 Hyundai models except Equus and Veloster and only applies to purchase finance offers on approved credit. If payment deferral is selected the original term of the contract will be extended by 2 months/66 days for monthly/bi-weekly finance contracts. Hyundai Auto Canada Corp. will pay the interest of the deferral for the first 2 months/66 days of the month/bi-weekly finance contract. After this period interest will start to accrue and the purchaser will pay the principal and interest monthly/bi-weekly over the remaining term of the contract. †♦Prices for models shown: 2012 Santa Fe Limited 3.5 AWD/2012 Elantra Limited/2012 Sonata Limited/2012 Tucson Limited AWD is $37,685/$24,330/$31,600/$24,245. Delivery and Destination charges of $1,760/$1,495/$1,565/$1,760, fees, levies, charges and all applicable taxes (excluding HST) are excluded. Registration, insurance, PPSA and license fees are excluded. ▼Fuel consumption for 2012 Santa Fe GL 2.4L 6-Speed Manual FWD HWY 7.7L/100KM. City 11.0L/100KM/2012 Elantra L 6-Speed HWY 4.9L/100KM. City 6.8L/100KM/2012 Sonata GL 6-Speed HWY 5.7L/100KM. City 8.7L/100KM/2012 Tucson L HWY 7.4L/100KM. City 10.1L/100KM are based on Manufacturer's testing. Actual fuel efficiency may vary based on driving conditions and the addition of certain vehicle accessories. Fuel economy figures are used for comparison purposes only. †♦◊Offers available for a limited time, and subject to change or cancellation without notice. See dealer for complete details. Dealer may sell for less. Inventory is limited, dealer order may be required. ▲Based on the December 2011 AJAMC report. ▲Government 5-Star Safety Ratings are part of the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program (www.SaferCar.gov). ††Hyundai's Comprehensive Limited Warranty coverage covers most vehicle components against defects in workmanship under normal use and maintenance conditions.